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SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

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BRIEFS

COUNTERTERRORISM EXERCISE--The nation's first counter-terrorism exercise will be held in Brisbane this week. The Queensland Premier, Mr Bjelke-Petersen, and the federal Minister for Administrative Services, Mr Newman, gave few details yesterday when they announced the operation. But they said a simulated terrorist attack would be staged between Wednesday and Friday. They said the exercise, code-named Sun State, was designed to test the preparedness of State and federal authorities in handling a terrorist incident. It would allow authorities to review and, where necessary, update existing counterterrorism measures planned on a national scale over several years, they said. One reason for the secrecy is that the exercise is designed to gauge people's reactions as the experiment unfolds. It is believed a group of "terrorists" will overrun a central city building, take 20 hostages and make demands during a 72-hour seige." Mr Bjelke-Petersen said the operation could give Queensland the experience to enable it to advise federal officials on counterterrorism. Other States would be wise to follow suit, he said. [By Jacky Archer] [Text] [Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 28 Apr 81 p 11]

CSO: 4220

BRIEFS

COMBAT REPORT FROM KENG TUNG—Combat news from Eastern Keng Tung: On 22 March, an attack by a small unit of the People's Army near Nnho-Yang village killed one enemy soldier. On the same day, another clash with the enemy near (Man Su-du) village wounded one enemy soldier. On 23 March, two clashes with the enemy—one at (Namyung) and another near (Mo Kwi) village—resulted in one enemy soldier killed and two others wounded. On the same day, a surprise raid by a small unit of the People's Army killed one mercenary. One G-2 was seized from the enemy. The following day, on 24 March, an attack by small units of the People's Army near (?Na-Hin) village and at (Kaw Bo-ke) wounded three enemy soldiers. On 25 March, two attacks by small units of the People's Army near (?Na-Hin) village and at (Kiang Kya) village resulted in two enemy soldiers wounded. Also on 30 March, three more clashes near (Kiang Kya) with the enemy force, which had launched an offensive, killed five enemy soldiers and wounded six others. On 5 April, an attack by the People's Army near (Ton Long) village wounded two enemy soldiers. [Text] [BK030748 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese to Burma 0030 GMT 3 May 81]

REPORTS FROM MYITKYINA, KENG TUNG—Combat news: On 24 March, a small unit of the People's Army intercepted and attacked the military government's mercenary 15th infantry regiment which was on its way from Sawlaw Camp located northeast of Myitkyina to (Kapat) village in (?Mangkyi) township and a mission to harass and loot. Five enemy including a mercenary officer were killed and four others were wounded. On 2 April, a small unit of the People's Army conducted a mine attack near (Hon Nan Maung) enemy camp located north of Kengtung, killing one enemy and wounding three others. On 22 April, an attack from the People's Army in the same area killed three enemy and wounded three others. On 3 April, a small unit of the People's Army conducted an attack at an area north of Mong Mit, killing one enemy from the military government's mercenary 7th infantry regiment and wounding two others. [Text] [BK081406 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese to Burma 1200 GMT 8 May 81]

REPORTS FROM HSI-HSENG, KENG TUNG—Combat news: On 26 March, a small unit of the People's Army attacked a camp of the military government's mercenary 94th infantry regiment in (Nawnghtaw), Hsi-hseng district, killing three enemy and wounding another. On 6 April, an ambush conducted against the 79th infantry regiment at (Nawng Kyan) near (Loi Pon Khok), killed two enemy and wounded two others. On 16 April, a clash occurred with followers of the military government around (We Paik). One enemy was captured along with a submachinegun and 200 rounds of ammunition. On 25, 26 and 27 April, small units of the People's Army conducted

guerrilla and mine attacks in northern Keng Tung district, killing two enemy and wounding three others. One gun and 10 mules used for transporting goods were seized from the enemy. [Text] [BK150930 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese to Burma 0030 GMT 15 May 81]

CLASHES IN KUTKAI, OTHER AREAS--Combat news: On 27 April, in an attack conducted by a small unit of the People's Army at (Pha Man) in Kutkai region, two of the enemy were killed and three others wounded. On 7 May, a clash with the enemy occurred at (Gongpha), resulting in four enemy dead and six wounded. Four rifles were seized from the enemy. On 4 May, in an attack conducted by a small unit of the People's Army near (Toksaka) village, located on the eastern bank of the Chindwin River in Homalin township, one enemy soldier from the military government's mercenary 20th infantry regiment was killed. During this period, the people and the People's Army repulsed an enemy offensive conducted by three military columns in the (Ko Ma La) region located between Mong Yu and Mong Yawng. The enemy fled in disarray. During this battle, six enemy troops were killed and one was captured as a prisoner of war. One mortar with a folding stock and other military equipment was seized from the enemy. [Text] [BK171224 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese to Burma 0030 GMT 17 May 81]

CSO: 4211/19

BJP DEMANDS NATIONAL DEBATE ON FOREIGN POLICY

Madras THE HINDU in English 24 Apr 81 p 9

[Text] Cochin, April 23.

The Bharathiya Janata Party has called upon the Government of India to forsake [as published] its tilt towards the USSR and revert to a credible non-alignment.

The national executive of the party, met at Mattancherry on Thursday under the Chairmanship of Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee and discussed the current international situation and the country's foreign policy for nearly two hours.

About 80 members, including special and permanent invitees out of the total 95 were present.

Mr. Sunder Singh Bhandari, Vice-president of the party and deputy leader of BJP in Parliament and Major Jaswant Singh, told pressmen that BJP was of the view that in the face of the formidable challenges on the foreign front, the primary task was that of forging unity of purpose in the nation.

The party noted with regret that on vital issues relating to foreign policy, the Government was making no effort towards evolving a national consensus. It demanded the Government to initiate a debate on the subject to take the people into confidence and to consult the Opposition.

The resolution, adopted by the executive, noted with concern the "erosion that was being permitted by the present Government to the original principle of non-alignment. India's voice no longer commanded the respect that it did once in the comity of nations. Ambivalence, [as published] not independent views, had come to represent the country".

The Government's stand on Afghanistan and recognition of Kampuchea had served neither our national interests nor any principle. By these acts they had alienated large and significant sections of the non-aligned.

While the BJP was appreciative of the commonality of ties with USSR it was however constrained to observe that never in the past 34 years had an Indian Prime Minister taken on the role of a spokesman and interpreter of the strategic perceptions of a superpower.

Ominous Similarities

It is the view of BJP, the resolution said, that for ensuring continued positive thrust of the non-aligned movement in the Eighties, they needed to recognise the ominous similarities in the intervention in Afghanistan, its attitudes towards Poland and the U.S. intervention in Vietnam or its doctrine on El Salvador. They needed to work towards an intelligent and viable region detente.

It was equally important that the non-aligned worked towards the structuring of a system of bilateral settlement of disputes amongst member countries.

Rejecting what it called the myth that there was any superpower exclusively for directing world events, the resolution said adherence to this archaic concept was the single biggest contributory factor to a heightening of world tensions whether in Asia, Africa or elsewhere.

Afghanistan Issue

Specially referring to the Afghanistan issue, the resolution said the Soviet armed intervention in Afghanistan now congealed to a state of occupation, had vital short and long term consequences for India as a nation. This occupation had the potential to further destabilise adjacent sensitive borders.

The BJP considered its duty to warn the Government and the nation that such a grave potentiality existed. The Soviet troops must withdraw from Afghanistan and as a nation, India should reaffirm its regional role and take the lead for a regional non-aligned initiative to ensure that Afghanistan regained its independent status, free from all forms of outside intervention or interference.

On the question of U.S. arms assistance to Pakistan, BJP's view was that any massive supply of arms would be contributory to a heightening of tension in this region. The regrettable history of past conflicts went toward emphasising this apprehension, it said.

Pakistan's nuclear aspirations carried within them dangerous portents for a serious destabilisation of the strategic balance in the sub-continent, the resolution said.

The BJP was committed to the concept of peaceful use of nuclear energy, but at the same time it could not unilaterally abjure the availability of options to the country.

CSO: 4220/7643

GANDHI COMMENTS ON INDO-SOVIET PLANNING COOPERATION

Madras THE HINDU in English 23 Apr 81 p 7

[Text]

NEW DELHI, April 22.

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, refused a suggestion in the Lok Sabha today that Plan programmes were not for the welfare of the people.

"We are committed to raising the standard of living of our people, we have succeeded in a small measure. We have a long long way to go," she said while replying to a question by Mr. Jyotirmoy Bose CPI (M).

Mr. Bose, in his supplementary on the question of cooperation offered by the Soviet Union in the sphere of planning said the two countries had distinct paths of development.

One was following the "capitalist path", while other pursuing the "socialist path". Mr. Bose said and asked how there could be a cooperation in the sphere of planning when "we are travelling in different directions altogether."

Mrs. Gandhi replied that it was a policy matter. Firstly, it was for the other country to decide whether "it is possible to cooperate with us in

this matter".

Cooperation with the Soviet Union in planning was a limited one. India had economic relationship with not only the U.S.S.R. but also other countries.

On the offer of the Soviet Union, she said "When we, who are under Plan, as it is in the U.S.S.R., they cannot get the help which we are going to get on our own, without putting it in their own pocket."

That was why it had become necessary to have a meeting of the Indo-Soviet Planning Group, she said.

While replying to Mr. R. P. Goshwami, the Planning Minister, Mr. H. D. Thacker said that at the 15th meeting of the Indo-Soviet Planning Group, between March 24 and March 31 in New Delhi, it was agreed that the sixth meeting of the group would be held in Moscow in September or October.

In this meeting topics like planning of the energy and foreign trade sectors would come up for discussion.—PTI.

CSO: 4220/7638

IMPORTANCE OF INDO-U.S. RELATIONS STRESSED

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 23 Apr 81 p 8

[Article by Girilal Jain]

[Text] So wide is the power gap between the United States and India that it is unavoidable that in its relations with Washington, New Delhi should be at the receiving end. This was the case in the 'fifties when America was launched on a policy which was injurious not only to our but also its own interests as we perceived them and this is the case now when Washington seems determined to repeat the old mistakes. We have been vindicated in the past and we are likely to be vindicated in the future. But that cannot be much of a comfort for us. We have to cope with the consequences of U.S. actions as best we can.

In the 'fifties, the United States committed two blunders. It misinterpreted the nature of the Soviet-Communist challenge and it underestimated the pull and power of nationalism. It took it for granted that the communist world was a monolith with its headquarters in Moscow, that China was nothing more or less than a Soviet satellite, that the Soviet-Communist challenge could best be met by establishing a /cordon sanitaire/ [in italics] around it, that newly independent and wouldbe independent countries in Asia and Africa were incapable of protecting their freedom and that it was necessary for it to place the more important among them under its protective umbrella in order to contain communism and extend Western influence. Vietnam was a logical culmination of this policy--an eloquent testimony to the fact that in the final analysis America suffered far more from its disregard of Mr. Nehru's advice than India. Pakistan provoked war with us in 1975 but failed to inflict much damage on us.

Frontline State

After a period of disenchantment with the old policy beginning in 1965-66 when American soldiers started getting killed in the jungles of Vietnam, the United States is returning to it almost with a vengeance. Even the simple-minded Mr. Reagan cannot now contend that the communist world is a monolith. But like his ideological predecessor, Mr. John Foster Dulles, he, too, emphasises the importance of military power in the struggle against the Soviet Union and nationalist-radical forces and downgrades nationalism as a factor in international affairs. He and his advisers are behaving as if they have not heard of the Shah of Iran and the reasons for the collapse of his pro-U.S. regime. And as if to underscore the point that they are back to the old policy, the Americans have once again

decided to treat Pakistan as a frontline state in the conflict with the Soviet Union. Pakistan was not willing to play that role then and is going to be even less willing to do so now. But American policy-makers do not worry themselves about such /minor/ [in italics] details.

By 1954 when the Americans finally decided to arm Pakistan and launch the Baghdad Pact and SEATO in disregard of warnings by Mr Nehru, President Nasser and President Sukarno, the Soviet leadership was just beginning to get out of the ideological straitjacket Stalin had imposed on it and to deal with some of the key Asian countries--India, Egypt and Indonesia--on a pragmatic basis. But even when the Kremlin agreed to respond to President Nasser's request for arms in 1955 and Mr. Khrushchev and Mr. Bulganin visited India later the same year and announced their support for India on the Kashmir issue, Mr. Nehru did not turn to the Soviet Union to redress the power imbalance which the U.S. decision to arm Pakistan was threatening to create in the sub-continent. In fact he visited the United States in 1956 to confer with President Eisenhower and unavoidably with Mr. Dulles.

He did not turn to Moscow for help even in 1959 when on the one hand Sino-Soviet differences and on the other the Sino-Indian border dispute had come to the surface. Instead, he welcomed President Eisenhower in India. In sum he regarded a continuous dialogue with Washington a necessary part of his policy of promoting the cause of peace in the region. That approach remains valid today.

Misconceived

Mr. Nehru had taken up the fight against America's wrong-headed policies long before any top official in Washington seriously thought of supplying arms to Pakistan. To be precise, the fight began in 1949 when he found that Washington was determined to ignore the nationalist face of the Chinese revolution and push Beijing into Moscow's arms. He became more sharply critical of America in 1950 when in defiance of a clear warning by Mr. Chou En-lai conveyed through the Indian ambassador, Mr. K. M. Panikkar, President Truman allowed General McArthur to cross the 38th parallel in Korea.

Once again India's opposition to U.S. policies is not wholly, or even mainly, the result of Washington's move to arm Pakistan. As then, our view is that the U.S. approach is misconceived because it is not based on a proper appreciation of the realities. Unlike Mr. Nehru, Mrs. Gandhi has been reticent in spelling out her viewpoint. But she must be as deeply concerned over the U.S. perceptions regarding West Asia, especially the Gulf, as her father was over the American view of China.

The situation in both the world and the region is obviously very different in 1981 from what it was in 1954. The Soviet Union can today directly project its power in any part of the globe which it was in no position to do in the 'fifties because it did not possess a strong blue-waters navy. The United States is no longer the dominant military power it was up to the 'sixties. It cannot stare down the Kremlin as it could at the time of the Cuban crisis in 1962. The Soviet presence in Afghanistan and in a different way in South Yemen is one measure of its military prowess in our region. And India now not only buys a great deal of its sophisticated hardware from the Soviet Union but has treaty relations with it which provide for mutual consultations in the event of a threat to the security

of either. But all this cannot imply that faced with misconceived U.S. policies, especially in our part of the world, we should move closer to Moscow and break off the dialogue with Washington. Indeed, it is unlikely that the Kremlin itself would favour such an approach on our part. For, like New Delhi, it too, is interested in the United States returning to the policy of */detente/* [in italics] and avoidance of direct superpower confrontation.

It is not easy to maintain a friendly attitude and continue the dialogue when the differences are as sharp as they are between the United States and India. But it is vital we do so. Mr. Nehru managed to combine firmness with friendship and there is no good reason why Mrs. Gandhi cannot pursue the same approach. India did not compromise its stand in the past even though on certain occasions, as in 1965 and 1966, it was critically dependent on U.S. wheat supplies. And now that it is self-reliant in food and the U.S. has ceased to be the principal source of aid, it is in a strong position to withstand pressure. But its approach obliges it to do all in its power to convert America to its point of view.

No government, however arrogant, is wholly impervious to strong and cogent argument, provided it is seen to come from friendly quarters. In the case of the United States, we have the advantage of dealing with an open society where the opposition viewpoint sympathetic to our own is seldom absent. Mr. Reagan's broad approach with its excessive emphasis on the military containment of Soviet power and influence is so completely out of touch with the compulsions and demands of the situation in Europe, Africa and West Asia that it can only be a matter of time that saner individuals within the administration itself begin to assert themselves.

In a sense, the process has already begun. Mr. Haig's first visit to West Asia, for example, has been educative. For despite their dependence on the United States for their security Jordan and Saudi Arabia have told him that the Arabs would never subordinate their conflict with Israel over Palestine to America's struggle against the Soviet Union. The assistant secretary of state for Africa, Mr. Crocker, has drawn similar rebuffs in his first visit to the region where America is suspected of being well disposed towards South Africa.

Difficulties

This is not to under-estimate the difficulties ahead. The Reagan administration is likely to take a long time to recognise that the world is too complex for it to run in accordance with its simplistic prescription and even longer to reconcile itself to this fact. It represents a strong sense of insecurity that has come to possess a lot of Americans and a desire to return to the good old days of the late 'forties and 'fifties when the U.S. was the only truly global power. But difficulties only underline the need for perseverance.

Mr. Nehru often underlined the risks inherent in a policy of trying to isolate the Soviet Union and China. The warning is equally valid in respect of the United States. Surprising though it may seem, it is feeling besieged. How else can one explain the central role assigned to little El Salvador in the fight against "Soviet expansionism" and "communism"? It seems to me that President Brezhnev is sensitive to this problem. That is presumably one reason--there are several others--why he is bending over backwards to reassure Mr. Reagan that it is

possible to do business with him. In response to threats from Washington, he has proposed negotiations. He has not held out a single threat.

India's diplomatic skill is on trial. It has to protect the country's security interest in an extremely complex and difficult environment and at the same time preserve its credibility as a non-aligned nation. Never before have its own interests coincided so completely with the cause of peace and non-alignment. It is, for example, as much in its interest that the United States does not step up its naval presence in the Indian Ocean and arm its "friends" excessively as that Soviet troops withdraw from Afghanistan. New Delhi cannot afford to get angry and break off discussions with Washington.

CSO: 4220/7635

INDIAN MP COMMENTS ON SHAHI WASHINGTON TALKS

Madras THE HINDU in English 23 Apr 81 p 9

[Article by N. Ram]

[Text]

WASHINGTON, April 22

There is little question here that during his two-day mission in Washington, Mr. Agha Shahi, Pakistan's Foreign Minister, has virtually wrapped up the military supply relationship with the United States that has caused such serious concern in India.

Mr. Shahi has himself announced the U.S. offer of a five-year programme, which he considers quite different from the previous offer of the Carter Administration that did not carry for us credibility.

Both Mr. Shahi and Mr. Alexander Haig have, at the stage, declined to go into figures. But the understanding among administration officials here is that the "security assistance" figure — which Mr. Haig indicated would have two components: foreign military sales, credits and economic support assistance — is likely to run to approximately \$500 millions per year over the five-year period.

This means something in the region of \$2.5 billions over the term. It is important to note that this does not include access to the supply of sophisticated weaponry on commercial terms, which Pakistan has proposed on top of the security assistance.

The Pakistan military dictatorship has been pressing the United States to provide high-performance aircraft and other sophisticated arms like M-60 tanks and anti-aircraft systems on terms similar to those given to India by the Soviet Union.

Major obstacle

For the United States, apart from the implications of a decision that will profoundly affect the military and political situation in the region, a major domestic obstacle remains to be tackled. This is the Symington Amendment which at present blocks military and most types of economic assistance to Pakistan on account of its nuclear enrichment programme.

Mr. Subramanian Swamy, Janata MP, has been here for some days now, after his long meeting with Mr. Deng Xiaoping in China. On Tuesday afternoon, he met Mr. Agha Shahi for a 40-minute discussion. He has also had meetings with State Department officials, researchers in "think tanks" in the Washington area, and been in touch with the Indian Foreign Minister, Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, who is in New York for a Security Council meeting on Namibia.

The picture that Dr. Swamy has been able to piece together on the U.S. project of rearming Pakistan, as it stands towards the end of the Shahi visit, is somewhat more detailed than the one available in the American media. According to Dr. Swamy, my guess is that they will get some \$2 billions over the 4-5 year period.

He is certain that the Pakistan regime is getting modern planes. His information is that "it is likely to get 40 or more F-16s" of 1979, a slightly downgraded version also known as FX. These will be made available on "concessional terms, with interest rates corresponding to what the Soviets have sold us. That is the norm they take." This means, he says, something in the region of 2 per cent annually, really soft.

Secondly, Dr. Swamy's information is that the package will include "a certain amount of economic assistance keeping in mind two million Afghan refugees which the Pakistan Government says are now in Pakistan."

Thirdly, they have mutually agreed not to seek congressional guarantees on security. This corresponds to what Mr. Haig has indicated to the media.

Although Dr. Swamy did not say this, it appears to be a decision reached considering the political problems on both sides. The 1950 bilateral defence arrangement with Pakistan has been described as "totally unspecific as to mutual obligations." The text commits the United States to "take such appropriate

action, including the use of armed forces, as may be mutually agreed upon in the event of aggression against Pakistan."

Originally intended to have an anti-China edge, the agreement is now virtually dead letter in the eyes of Pakistani officials — who have for some time been lobbying for the alteration and upgrading of the agreement to take care of what is seen as a possible threat from India.

According to Pakistani sources quoted in the American media, Mr. Shahi informed the U.S. Administration that he was no longer seeking a change in the bilateral defence arrangement.

Positive aspect

Fourthly, according to Dr. Swamy, Pakistan has made it clear it will not be part of any multilateral regional security arrangement spearheaded by the United States. Mr. Shahi apparently made it clear that his Government was unwilling — given its non-aligned and Islamic conference status — to enter into an "aid" or rather allied relationship with the United States. This seemed to rule out U.S. bases or permanent military forces on Pakistani soil. Dr. Swamy characterised the Pakistan decision as "a positive thing."

The Janata MP who along with Mr. Monty Deas has suggested that the Government of India not oppose Pakistan's new military supply relationship with the United States, sums up the information he has gathered on the Pakistan Foreign Minister's visit from his standpoint. Mr. Agha Shahi's visit has been quite successful. India should try to cut its losses, so to speak, by trying to retain influence and keep communication channels with both the U.S. and Pakistan. And not to fan irrational fears in India about Pakistan's capability.

Dr. Swamy is outspoken about his low opinion of the approach reflected by the recent Gandhi's visit. One has to take a practical view of it.

A big country like India should protest only when its protest will be heard. Periodic demonstration of our impotence is bad. Therefore India must try to accommodate the political development without losing its bearings.

He is not himself opposed to India, given the present level of its foreign exchange reserves, shopping around the world for arms if it feels necessary. He advocates the immediate raising of the share of the GNP by military expenditure from 13.5 per cent to 5 per cent.

He reiterates his view that India should go ahead and develop nuclear weapons. Although this is again not his phrase, it is clear that Dr Swamy is far from opposed to a renewed and far-going arms race on the sub-continent and in the larger region.

About the U.S. project of rearming Pakistan on a large scale, the Janata MP's view is "India, which today is in a very unattractive position, has put a very sorry figure in international forums in regard to the arms to Pakistan by the U.S. India's opinion doesn't count."

"Practical approach"

The "Practical" approach he favours runs as follows: "Either we are such good friends with America that if our feelings are hurt, the Americans are worried. Well, the Americans couldn't care less about India. I've never seen the stock of India so low in Washington as I saw in the 1960s."

Or we object on a basis of power. We say, "Pakistan is in our sphere of influence. Why are you intervening?" A kind of position which Mr. Deng Xiaoping has accepted that we are the elder brother of the subcontinent.

If we say that we are elder brother, we must be able to speak to Pakistan. The approach of Mr. Gonsalves appeared to me here to be, if you give Pakistan bows and arrows, then we don't mind. But you can't give them weapons.

Rather than Mr. Gonsalves coming to Washington and saying this, it would have been better if we had gone to Pakistan and said, "look, don't take American aid. The Americans are unreliable people, they will make a mess of the whole thing. We are prepared to give you arms. I'm in favour

of India arming Pakistan to meet its security risks in the case of Afghanistan."

Dr. Swamy also favours — saying this is his personal view — the United States and others funneling arms into Pakistan to the anti-government forces in Afghanistan, although he recognises the high risks here.

Dr. Subramanian Swamy's, and Mr. Morarji Desai's views on the U.S. project of rearming the Pakistani military dictatorship appear to run counter to the overwhelming trend of public opinion in India, and probably within Pakistan.

It is also at sharp variance with the interpretation offered on the subject by the correspondent and with the editorial views of this newspaper. But there is no question here that Reagan administration officials and Hewlett strategy analysts like Mr. Deng Xiaoping and Mr. Agha Shahi have plenty of time for him — and are paying close attention to his views on the project of rearming the Pakistani regime and other factors in the regional situation that U.S. officials sometimes refer to as South Asia, but more usually, with a change in focus, as "South-West Asia."

PAPER COMMENTS ON OUTCOME OF U.S.-PAKISTAN TALKS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Apr 81 p 8

[Editorial]

[Text] The outcome of the Pakistan foreign minister, Mr. Agha Shahi's visit to Washington is far from clear. The Reagan administration has agreed to give Pakistan the arms it has been clamouring for. But the terms do not seem to have been fully and finally settled. That is not an altogether unimportant issue. It remains to be seen whether the United States will make an outright grant of the hardware or sell part of it at throwaway prices or find other means to help Pakistan finance its purchases. A barrier in the form of the Symington amendment which prohibits U.S. aid to countries pursuing nuclear weapons programmes also remains to be crossed. In all probability it will be crossed. The Reagan administration has proposed that Congress waive the amendment. But one must not rush to any conclusion. Washington /has/ [in italics] ignored India's protests to the extent that it has decided to arm Pakistan in a big way. In the process it has made an arms race in the sub-continent unavoidable. New Delhi will need to strengthen its defence preparedness to be able to cope with the new situation. But it appears that both Washington and Islamabad are more keen than before on reassuring it and maintaining a dialogue with it. This is a welcome development as far as it goes. India is prepared to go along with this approach as is evident from Mr. Eric Gonsalves's discussion in Washington and Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao's proposed trip to Islamabad. The sharp divergence between Indian and U.S. approaches and objectives is obvious and Pakistan's record of adventurism speaks for itself. But a three-way discussion can help mitigate the dangerous consequences of the Pakistan-U.S. moves to some extent.

It will also be rash to draw firm conclusions on other related issues at this stage. But it does seem that Islamabad has dropped its earlier demand for a full-fledged new security treaty with the United States which would have replaced the 1959 executive agreement and guaranteed Pakistan's "security" not only against the Soviet Union but also against India. The reasons for this change of policy are not known, though one can make an intelligent guess. But whatever the reasons, it saves both Washington and Islamabad certain embarrassments. The U.S. administration will, for example, escape having to take an openly anti-Indian stance and Pakistan the obligation to provide base facilities to America and to serve publicly as a conduit for U.S. arms to Afghan rebels. It is possible to argue that these are empty postures which need not deceive anyone. But postures are not always altogether meaningless. A new Pakistan-U.S. security treaty would

certainly complicate matters for Washington in its dealings with New Delhi and for Islamabad in its future discussions with Moscow which must take place at some stage. In view of the intense anti-American sentiment in Pakistan, it could also weaken President Zia-ul-Haq's already vulnerable position at home and thereby endanger the overall U.S. design in the Gulf region. Thus, even without taking into account possible Soviet moves, it cannot be said that the various pieces of the jigsaw puzzle that constitute Pakistan-U.S. relations have begun to fall into place.

CSO: 4220/7641

CPI LEADERS PROTEST U.S. ARMS SUPPLY TO PAKISTAN

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 24 Apr 81 p 10

[Text] Leaders of the Communist Party of India on Thursday termed US arms supply to Pakistan as "an insidious design of US global strategy to revert back to cold war and pursue its policy of expansionism, neo-colonialism and reversal of detente".

The speakers expressed apprehension that clouds of war were gathering on the frontiers of the country and asserted that the country would stand united to face this challenge of imperialist forces.

Addressing a public meeting organised by the party's Delhi State Council, CPI general secretary C Rajeswara Rao said the massive supply of armaments was not meant for Pakistan's security but was intended for use against this country. This has given a severe set-back to peace and stability in the region.

The CPI leader emphasised that Pakistanis were our "brothers and blood," but said that the military rulers were bringing their country to the doorstep of war much against the wishes of their people. The peaceful and democratic people of Pakistan who were demanding elections, had now been dragged by the military rulers in this US imperialist conspiracy.

Mr Rajeswara Rao warned the countrymen to remain vigilant against the reactionary forces within the country who were espousing Pakistan's arms buildup. He said that certain Janata Party members and RSS leaders had openly supported the dictatorial policies of Zia-ul-Haq. He also deplored the Government call to stop all agitational politics to face this challenge.

CPI central secretariat member Bhupesh Gupta, MP, said that the supply of arms to Pakistan was a Sino-US conspiracy to push the race for armaments and escalate tension in the region.

He dismissed the claim that the US arms supply was to guard Pakistan from the Soviet Union as baseless and asserted that the Afghan revolution had come to stay and no power in the world could destroy it.

Coinciding with the arms supply were the growing tentacles of CIA activists and other reactionary forces in the country. These, he said, were creating troubles like the anti-reservation stir, communal discord and the Assam trouble.

Hailing Indo-Soviet friendship, Mr Gupta said that it was a bulwark of peace, "strong and firm as Himalayas."

He said that at this hour the people of the country would stand united to combat the imperialist challenge and expressed the hope that all the peace loving, anti-imperialist forces of the world come forward to fight the US menace.

CPI executive member M M Farooqi also addressed the meeting.

CSO: 4220/7645

INDIA

COMMENTATOR DISCUSSES HAIG VISIT TO INDIA

Madras THE HINDU in English 26 Apr 81 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text] New Delhi, April 25.

The U.S. Secretary of State, Gen. Alexander Haig, will be visiting India and Pakistan, and perhaps also some other countries in the area, in the next two or three months after the Reagan administration has finally made up its mind on how far it should go in containing a possible Soviet threat to the Gulf region.

The ostensible purpose of his visit to India is to attend the much postponed ministerial meeting of the Indo-American Joint Commission, but he would be coming primarily to discuss the regional situation at a higher political level and try to assuage India's fears about the consequences of rearming Pakistan.

The former Secretary of State, Mr. Cyrus Vance, was due to visit India in 1979 for the Joint Commission meeting in Delhi, before he resigned following differences with President Carter over the handling of the hostage crisis with Iran.

His successor, Mr. Edmund Muskie, promised to come last year, if he possibly could before the Presidential election, but he remained much too pre-occupied with other pressing problems.

Running controversy: Both Indian and U.S. Governments are keeping their fingers crossed about the Haig visit, since the running controversy in the corridors of power in Washington over the assertive temperament and style of functioning of the strong-willed Secretary of State could any time lead to his resignation.

But the preparatory work for the visit has already begun in the sense that the two sides are keen on getting the Tarapur problem out of the way before he comes to Delhi, so that the main focus of his discussions could be on the more fundamental issue of U.S. military supplies to Pakistan.

If the U.S. has decided to ignore India's objections to the rearming of Pakistan, the Reagan administration does not want to alienate New Delhi altogether to the point of increasing its dependence on the Soviet Union for its own defence effort.

As a top-ranking military strategist who was not unaware of the implications of pushing India into such a position, Gen. Haig gave the impression during his two recent meetings with Indian representatives that he was not altogether insensitive to New Delhi's apprehensions.

There is thus a little grey zone still left for some sort of Indo-American dialogue for maintaining a credible balance between the U.S. decision to draw Pakistan into its own strategic designs in the region and the Indian plea for keeping the level of the proposed arms induction within manageable limits to ensure that it does not trigger a renewed arms race in the subcontinent.

And if and when Gen. Haig comes to Delhi, the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, and her advisers will try to assure him that India will be prepared to play its part in urging simultaneously a matching restraint on the part of the Soviet Union, if the U.S. is prepared to display some degree of moderation.

If the U.S. agrees that there can be no military solution to the Afghan problem without running the risk of a much bigger conflict with the Soviet Union, the only alternative left is to strive for a political settlement to pave the way for the withdrawal of the Russian forces.

CSO: 4220/7652

FORMER ENVOY TO U.S. COMMENTS ON PAKISTAN ARMS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Apr 81 pp 1, 5

[Text] Former Indian ambassador to the US T. N. Kaul said on Saturday that the US supply of sophisticated arms to Pakistan "is bound to be used, as in the past, against India, leading to instability in the region" report agencies.

Condemning the US policy in the region in an AIR broadcast on "Emerging cold war and US arms aid to Pakistan", Mr Kaul said US policies seem to be turning back to the Dulles era.

In fact, they are getting ever more dangerous. The fig-leaf of arming Pakistan to meet "the threat of international communism" has now been removed, he said.

India knows from bitter experience that the military rulers of Pakistan have always used US arms against India and for suppressing the democratic struggle of their own people", Mr Kaul said. [as published]

Even a US law against supply of arms to countries intending to conduct a nuclear explosion is being changed to meet Pakistan's demands, he said.

In contrast, India is being denied the supply of enriched uranium for Tarapore even under safeguards, in violation of the Indo-US agreement of 1963.

"Where is all this going to lead? What is its significance for the people of India, Pakistan and this region", he asked.

He said that if Pakistan believed that it could use the Afghan issue and the Kashmir question to get more and more military and economic aid from America and some Islamic countries and thereby improve its bargaining position, it was sadly mistaken.

In view of the growing tension in the region, India cannot sit idle and watch Pakistan increase its military power, which is already twice what it was in 1971 when Pakistan had its two wings to safeguard, Mr Kaul said.

The Pak military build up will lead to an arms race on the sub-continent, divert the much needed resources from development and halt the process of normalisation between the two countries started at Simla by Mrs Indira Gandhi and Mr Bhutto in 1972, he added.

"They do not accept India's offer of a no-war or non-aggression pact". Even the Simla spirit is being violated by raising the Kashmir question at religious and other international forums, he said.

If Pakistan rulers genuinely feel threatened by India why are they not agreeing to a mutual non-aggression pact?, he asked.

/Mr Kaul said: "We must increase our vigilance, strengthen our defences, and consolidate our reliable friendships" to safeguard the country's sovereignty and integrity./ [in boldface] [as published]

With the likelihood of the permanent stationing of the Fifth US fleet in the area, and the acquisition of new military bases, Mr Kaul felt "danger signals" were looming large over the region.

Speaking on pressing international issues, Mr Kaul said the Iran-Iraq conflict had created fissures in the non-aligned movement. He said the intransigence of South Africa and Namibia was being encouraged by its western allies.

China's invasion of Vietnam followed by "open and clandestine" support to Pol Pot's remnant forces across the Kampuchean border in Thailand, had increased tension between the three Indo-China states on one side and ASEAN on the other, Mr Kaul said.

CSO: 4220/7653

REPORTER ALLEGES U.S. PRESSURE IN WORLD BANK LOAN

Madras THE HINDU in English 23 Apr 81 p 5

[Article by N. Ram]

[Text]

WASHINGTON, April 21

The role of the Government of India in the unending controversy over the Thal Vasthak consultancy and the fate of the \$250 million loan from the World Bank are well known. Now a piece of the confidential action at the higher levels of the bank is out, through the leak of an internal memorandum.

A photocopy of an office memorandum, dated October 22, 1980, from the U.S. Executive Director Mr. Robert I. King, to Mr. W. David Hopper, Regional Vice President in the World Bank for South Asia, is quite revealing. It documents the crude, one-sided pressure brought on the bank management to disapprove of the decision of the Government of India to award the consultancy contract for the Thal fertilizer project to Haldar Topase Ltd.

The U.S. Executive Director in the World Bank draws Mr. Hopper's attention to the action in the loan agreement for the Thal project, which requires that Haldar Topase Ltd. procure a consultant "whose qualifications, experience and terms and conditions of employment shall be satisfactory to the bank."

He demands that the bank approve the qualifications of Haldar Topase, paying attention not merely to the consultant's technical qualifications but to its "experience", as that term is broadly understood.

Mr. King informs Mr. Hopper, not subtly, that "the office would like to place itself on record as approving the course of action, and of urging that every reasonable step be taken to ensure that no consultant be finally selected and approved who does not meet the existing qualifications required for the success of such an important project."

This by itself might not amount to much. But the U.S. representative presents a question, or rather line of attack,

by which the World Bank might shoot down the project loan. The question has to do with the possible applicability of the conditions imposed by the "guidelines for procurement under World Bank loans" to the consultancy contract with Haldar Topase Ltd.

The point made in the memorandum is this. The guidelines for consultancy contracts are much less stringent than the guidelines for procurement contracts. The former, unlike the latter (as Mr. King puts it) "require no international competitive bidding, and allow the bank no opportunity to interpose its preferences for consultants, beyond its right to disapprove a particular selection, on grounds of less-than-required capacity."

The question, therefore, is "Whether a contract which designates itself as consultancy might nonetheless be treated as a procurement contract, if, notwithstanding its designation, it is vested with the essential characteristics of a procurement contract."

Comment or criticism. The suggestion from the U.S. Executive Director to the World Bank Vice President is this. "We have certain relevant items of correspondence, including statements by the Government of India, which indicate that the proposed consultant in the contract in question is to be vested with responsibilities which appear to be the ones customarily associated with a contractor rather than a consultant."

"It appears, for example, that the 'consultant' is here charged first, with creating and drafting specifications for the construction of the ammonia plant, and then, of supervising the execution of those specifications."

Now (says Mr. King), the World Bank's operation manual is "very clear that a consultant's duties may include supervising manufacturing processes, coordinating work done by various contractors, and other comparable activities."

"As we understand it, however, the responsibilities of the consultant in the Thal fertilizer project go beyond this. He is not only requested to supervise the plant's construction, but also to assume legal liability for its completion, according to specifications, and within a prescribed time-frame."

The level of responsibility, in our opinion, is one which is normally associated with a contractor. It is the universal practice, wherever a general contractor is used, to consider him to be the "captain of the ship, that is, the one ultimately and legally responsible to see that the construction goes forward, on time and according to specifications."

"If we are correct that the consultant, in the case before us, is given the kind of responsibility, then it would seem to follow that he might be considered a contractor, and his selection governed by the far more exacting conditions required by the operational manual."

The photocopy of the document shows an embarrassing marginal scribbling by the World Bank executive even after the first three paragraphs. That's exactly my view too — whatever the merits of the legal stuff below. Technical and legal decisions are not supposed to be made in this way.

The U.S. representative was asserting what appear to be his customary rights in the World Bank's decision-making process, in favour of an American company, C. F. Braun and Co.

As it happened — and it turns out that the decision of the Government of India is not vindicated on merits by the fact that the U.S. representative asserted and the World Bank removed questionable, if not improper, pressure — the \$250 million loan for the Thal fertilizer project fell through by the end of 1980.

INDIA

PRC FOREIGN MINISTER TO ARRIVE IN DELHI 26 JUNE

Madras THE HINDU in English 26 Apr 81 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, April 25.

The Foreign Minister of China, Mr. Huang Hua, will be arriving in Delhi on June 26 on a five-day visit to India, according to the dates finalised by the two countries.

He will be accompanied by the former Chinese Ambassador to India, Mr. Chen Chao-yuan, who is the Head of the South Asian Division in the Chinese Foreign Ministry dealing with Sino-Indian relations.

After three days of discussions in Delhi, Mr. Huang Hua will spend two days in the South visiting Bangalore and some other places, before going to Colombo on a goodwill trip to Sri Lanka, the only other country he will be visiting on this occasion.

CSO: 4220/7652

INDIA

INDIA REPORTED SEEKING NEGOTIATIONS ON MIRAGE 2000

LD271403 Paris LE MONDE in French 22 Apr 81 p 8

[Report by LE MONDE Correspondent Patric Frances: "India Would Like 150 Mirage 2000 Aircraft on Condition that France Does Not Supply Any to Pakistan"]

[Text] New Delhi--Next June the Indian Air Force chief of staff will visit France where, in particular, he will attend the international air show at Le Bourget. The French side places the greatest importance on this visit at a time when Marcel Dassault has made known that India would like to buy 150 Mirage 2000 fighters, if France agrees not to supply them to other countries in the region.

Marcel Dassault's Paris announcement (LE MONDE 11 April) that India is preparing to order 150 Mirage 2000 aircraft soon has so far not provoked any official comment in New Delhi, where the defense minister confined himself to replying that the question is under consideration at the present time.

In fact, it appears that Dassault's statements have plunged the interested parties in the Indian capital into confusion and embarrassment--confusion as to what, in a sphere where the greatest discretion is generally the rule, may have motivated such disclosures; embarrassment, too, insofar as certain circles considered it likely that in the end such spotlighting would harm the object in view. In fact, for someone who understands from experience that in this country patience is without doubt the most important virtue for a person who hopes to conclude an important contract, Dassault's remarks were somewhat surprising, if not to say clumsy.

Without necessarily wishing to connect the two events, we note that these statements were made only a few days before the British prime minister, Margaret Thatcher, arrived in India. In April 1979 India signed a contract with the British Aerospace Company providing for: 1) the purchase of 40 twin-jet Jaguar fighters to Indian specifications; 2) the acquisition of 45 Jaguars to be assembled on the spot at Bangalore by Hindustan Aeronautics, Limited; 3) the construction under license, also at Bangalore, of about 100 of these tactical aircraft.

But though the first two clauses of the contract will probably be honored, the third may be in the balance.

According to a recent article in THE ECONOMIC TIMES, the Indian Government has just abandoned the idea of construction under license of the French-English aircraft, used in the armies of Ecuador and Oman, and has apparently decided to acquire the Mirage 2000 which will be available after 1984.

Experts believe that the most serious rival of the French aircraft remains the Soviet MIG-25, a few of which the Indian Air Force has allegedly already acquired. The MIG-25 is a competitor to be reckoned with, especially in view of the exceptional financial conditions which the Soviet Union granted India in the purchase of military equipment.

One thing seems certain: the desire of the Indian authorities to negotiate as quickly as possible, concerned as they are at the efforts currently being made by Pakistan to modernize its air force, thanks mainly to the purchase of U.S. F-16 aircraft and even of additional Mirages. (Pakistan, one of France's most important arms customers in this part of the world, has already bought 96 Mirage-III's from France and, by providing technical advisers, is helping French aeronautical industrialists to market their product in Asia and the Middle East.) Hence the Indians' alleged desire, in the event of an agreement with France, to insist that she not supply the Mirage 2000 to any other country in the region.

CSO: 4220/7674

BENGAL CONGRESS-I HEAD CALLS FOR ELECTION BOYCOTT

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 22 Apr 81 pp 1, 9

[Text]

MR AJH Panja, West Bengal Congress (I) president, said in Calcutta on Tuesday that the Congress (I) would boycott the municipal elections in the State in protest against the "manipulation of the voters list by the Left Front." He called upon all other nationalist and democratic parties not to participate in this "farce of an election."

Asked to comment on the Congress (I)'s election boycott decision, the Chief Minister told reporters that there was no unity in the Congress (I) and if the party had contested the municipal poll there would have been fighting among the party men leading to bloodshed. They thought discretion was the better part of valour and decided to withdraw from the elections at the last moment.

Explaining the reasons for boycotting the elections, Mr Panja said that despite the lowering of the qualifying age from 21 years to 18 years, it had been found

that the size of the electorate had shrunk considerably—over 100,000 less than the Assembly electoral roll prepared on the basis of 21 years as the qualifying age. This had been possible because of a "massive exclusion of genuine voters' names" from the electoral roll. The date for filing nomination papers, he pointed out, had been extended to April 19 without consulting the Opposition parties.

The Congress (I) leader alleged that the employees belonging to the State Government Employees' Coordination Committee had been entrusted with the responsibility of printing the ballot papers for the elections and even some private printing presses, loyal to the ruling party, had been engaged for the purpose. Government officers and staff had been enlisted "en masse" for running this "show of election", he added.

Mr Panja said that telegrams had been sent to the districts asking all Congress (I) candidates to withdraw their names. Instructions had been issued for holding of

public meetings to sustain the party's stand. Peaceful mass demonstrations would be organised to protest against the subversion of democracy in West Bengal by the Left Front. He said it was not a fact that the Congress (I) was boycotting the elections to avoid indecision. He added, amid laughter, that the Congress (I) was not that popular in West Bengal to have half a dozen candidates for a seat.

Meanwhile, the All-India Christian Democratic Party readily responded to the call of the Congress (I) and announced that it would boycott the municipal elections since no free and fair election could be held under the Left Front regime. The district leaders of the West Bengal unit of the Janata Party will meet on Wednesday to take a decision on the issue. The veteran Janata leader, Mr P. C. Sen, said that he had received reports from about 35 constituencies that the names of genuine voters had been omitted

from the electoral roll. The fall in the number of voters despite the lowering of the qualifying age of voters from 21 years to 18 years went to show that there had been some sort of manipulation in the preparation of the electoral roll.

Indications available from some of the non-Left Front parties showed, however, that the Congress (I) might be successful in roping in all the other eight non-Left Front parties to agree to its election boycott decision. The Congress (I)'s decision would give them an opportunity to gather a sizeable portion of the anti-Left Front votes, it was felt. The executive committee of the State Congress (U) will meet on Wednesday to take a decision on the municipal election issue.

The CPI(M) leader, Mr Saroj Mukherjee, said that the Congress (I) was staying away from the elections because they did not believe in democracy. It went to show that the Congress (I) had become isolated from the people and, perhaps, they had also received reports from the districts that they would not fare well. He pointed out that the Congress had failed to hold civic elections in West Bengal for the past 15 years and now when the Left Front had arranged for civil elections they were staying away from it on some plea.

Referring to Mr Panja's allegation about the use of private printing presses for the election purpose, Mr Mukherjee said that this procedure had been followed for the past 25 years to supplement the work of the West Bengal Government Press. Regarding the omission of genuine voters' names, he said it was the responsibility of the political parties to cooperate with the enumerators. The Front had also failed to include many names despite its best efforts. Discrepancy in the voters' list could not, however, be an excuse for boycotting the elections, he added.

CSO: 4220/7632

CONGRESS-I NOMINEES WITHDRAW IN BENGAL POLLS

Calcutta THE SUNDAY STATESMAN in English 26 Apr 81 p 1

[Text] The West Bengal Congress (I) president, Mr Ajit Panja, said in Calcutta on Saturday that in accordance with his party's decision to boycott the municipal elections in the State, all Congress (I) candidates had withdrawn from the elections. Saturday was the last day of withdrawal of nominations for the elections.

Mr Panja announced that the candidates, who had withdrawn their names in response to his election boycott call, would in future be given priority with regard to nomination for any other election or for any party post at district or block-level.

He said that the State units of the Congress (U) and the All-India Communist Party had in separate letters informed him that though they were unable to respond to his boycott call, they would cooperate with the Congress (I) to expose the misrule of the Left Front Government, led by the CPI(M).

Meanwhile, a spokesman of the CPI(M) said during the day that following the withdrawal of nominations by the Congress (I) candidates, some of the Left Front candidates, who were facing straight contests with Congress (I) candidates, had been elected uncontested.

Asked to comment on Mr Panja's call to the people to boycott the municipal elections, Mr Jyoti Basu said that the majority of people would certainly ignore the call. If the Congress (I) resorted to violence to prevent people from voting, it will be resisted by the people themselves.

Five Left Front candidates returned uncontested in the Bally municipality because of the Congress (I)'s withdrawal decision.

It is presumed that the anti-Left front parties, except the SUC, had an alliance among themselves as their candidates will meet the Left Front candidates in direct contest in 10 municipal wards. There will be triangular fight at seven wards and multi-contests at three wards. In ward no 21 a CPI(M) candidate will contest a Forward Bloc and a Janata Party candidate. The total number of voters is more than 94,000.

In view of the withdrawal of Congress (I) candidates from the municipal polls in the district, 10 Left Front candidates stand elected uncontested. Of the 10,

eight CPI(M) candidates are from Nabadwip municipality, one Forward Bloc candidate from Krishnagar and one RCPI from Shantipur.

Nearly 86 Congress (I) candidates on Saturday withdrew from the Hooghly-Chinsurah municipal poll. Forty-one candidates are now in the field to contest 30 seats.

Although the Left Front and the CPI came to an understanding over seat adjustment in the Midnapore and Tamluk municipalities, talks for alliance in seven other municipal bodies of the district, including Kharagpur and Contai, fell through on Saturday despite efforts by Mr Promode Dasgupta and Mr Biswanath Mukherjee, CPI sources in Midnapore said on Saturday.

The CPI and the Left Front will contest jointly in the ensuing municipal poll in Birbhum district. The SUCI and the CPI(ML) have put up their candidates too.

All the 19 Congress (I) candidates in Jalpaiguri withdrew their names on Thursday afternoon.

CSO: 4220/7650

NONCOMMUNIST PARTIES IGNORE CONGRESS-I APPEAL

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 23 Apr 81 pp 1, 9

[Text] Ignoring the Congress (I)'s call for boycotting the municipal elections in the State, the West Bengal Congress (U) and the State unit of the Janata Party decided on Wednesday to participate in the poll. The two parties' decision not only gave a jolt to the Congress(I)-led non-Left Front combination in the State, but also isolated the West Bengal Congress (I) from other like-minded parties.

According to Mr Saugata Roy, a Congress (U) leader, a spokesman [as published] of the State unit of the All-India Communist Party had informed his party that they would participate in the elections. The Muslim League had informed the Congress (U) of a similar decision, according to Mr Roy.

On the other hand, another member of the nine-party non-Left Front combination, the All-India Forward Bloc (Niharendu Dutt-Majumdar group) announced its decision to boycott the municipal elections. The All-India Christian Democratic Party earlier supported the Congress (I)'s election boycott call.

At an emergency meeting held during the day, the executive committee of the PCC (U) stated in a unanimous resolution that participation in all forms of democratic activities was a part of the Congress political philosophy. Boycotting of elections was against that basic principle. Though the party was convinced that there had been manipulation of the municipal electoral roll, it was in favour of participation in the election because it was against giving a "walk-over" to the Left Front.

Mr Priya Ranjan Das Munshi, president of the WBPC (U), said that his party had filed nominations for 440 seats in the municipal elections. They had definite information that there had been manipulations in the voters' lists in Kharagpur, Siluguri and Baranagar municipalities. In Baranagar, the number of voters during the last Lok Sabha poll was 102,000, but, surprisingly, now it had come down to 92,000. In Kharagpur, 415 voters, who were not residents of the municipality, had been included on the voters' list.

Mr Das Munshi said that despite all these manipulations, they had decided to participate in the elections because it would give them an opportunity to expose the partisan politics and misrule of the CPI(M)-led Left Front Government. Apart from this, non-participation in the election would only strengthen the hands of the undemocratic, authoritarian and separatist forces, he felt.

Though there was a sharp difference of opinion on the question of boycotting the municipal elections at the extended meeting of the State unit of the Janata Party, Miss Abha Maity, said the party would cooperate with other nationalist parties and democratic-minded citizens who would participate in the elections.

Interestingly, the Congress (U), which had held its meeting before the Janata Party, sent its resolution to Janata while the latter was discussing the issue. Later, a number of Congress (U) leaders, including Mr Das Munshi, went to the Janata Party office and were present at the Press conference addressed by Miss Maity and Mr P. C. Sen.

Mr Sen said that a section of the State Congress (I) had betrayed the non-Left Front combination by announcing unilaterally the decision to boycott the election.

Earlier, during the talks with Congress (I) leaders it had been decided that the boycott decision would be announced by him and not by the president of any of the non-Left Front parties. The Congress (I) had lost much of its credibility to the non-Left Front parties by making such a unilateral boycott decision, he added.

Asked if in future, the Congress (I) would be a dependable partner in joint political movements, Mr Sen replied that in politics one could not predict what would happen in future and added that the WBPC (I) president, Mr Ajit Panja, had not got in touch with him before announcing the boycott decision. Only late on Tuesday night, he received a copy of Mr Panja's statement to the Press.

Both Mr Das Munshi and Miss Maity felt that the municipal elections would give the Congress (U) and the Janata Party an opportunity to forge a formidable combination in State politics. The Janata Party has filed nominations for nearly 400 seats in the municipal elections.

Alleging manipulations of the voters' list, the Socialist Unity Centre has asked the people to organize themselves in citizens' committees to fight the Congress (I) and the CPI(M).

Referring to the State Congress (U) and Janata's decision to participate in the municipal elections, the Congress (I) leader, Mr Abdus Sattar, said the decision might have been influenced by the central leaders of these two parties.

The ground on which the State Congress (I) boycotted the elections was common and the Janata and Congress (U) leaders were equally concerned over the manipulation of the electoral roll. It was, therefore, regrettable that they had decided otherwise.

CSO: 4220/7637

INDIA

PRO-DANGE CPI MEMBERS OPPOSE PARTY LINE

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 23 Apr 81 p 9

[Text] The pro-Dange members of the West Bengal CPI have sharply criticized its national council's decision to expel the former chairman of the party and opposed the party's political line of "capitulation to the Maoist CPI(M)".

Over 200 CPI workers, mostly drawn from the party's Calcutta district council, announced this decision at a convention held at the [as published] Indian Association hall on Wednesday. Mr Krishnabinod Roy presided. Among the speakers were Mr Gour Goswami, Mr Sankarshan Roy Chowdhury and Mr Jyotirmoy Gupta.

The resolution passed at the convention urged CPI leaders to thrash out serious differences within the party through open discussions.

Meanwhile, the secretariat of the CPI's State Council [as published] warned that disciplinary action would be taken against those who would violate the party constitution. Referring to the convention held at the Indian Association hall, it said this open condemnation of the party's political line was aimed at disrupting the party.

CSO: 4220/7637

BYELECTIONS FOR PARLIAMENT SCHEDULED FOR JUNE

Calcutta THE SUNDAY STATESMAN in English 26 Apr 81 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, April 25.--By-elections to eight Lok Sabha and 28 Assembly seats are to be held in June, report PTI and UNI. Mr S. L. Shakhder, Chief Election Commissioner, announcing this at a Press conference here today said notifications for the elections would be issued by the first week of next month.

He did not rule out the possibility of evolving an independent machinery to conduct [as published] elections in West Bengal because of what he called gross interference by the State Government.

He charged the West Bengal Government with interfering in the working of the commission by making a confidential letter of it public. The letter was written by Mr Shakhder to the Chief Electoral Officer of the State to elicit information about the law and order situation in West Bengal in view of the by-election.

While by-elections to the Lok Sabha will be held in West Bengal, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, the Assembly seats to be contested will be in West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Bihar and Tripura.

Mr Shakhder said States where revision of electoral rolls or issue of identity cards for voters were required, would not be included in the present by-election programme.

Complaints

He said a large number of complaints had been received from various political parties and groups about inaccuracies in the electoral rolls in West Bengal. Some of the complaints needed investigation.

The Chief Election Commissioner said correction of the rolls was well within the purview of the commission.

He regretted that the West Bengal Chief Minister made public statements about electoral rolls instead of writing formally to the commission.

He said he had written to the Chief Electoral Officer in West Bengal on April 8 and received his reply on April 24. If the reply had come earlier, the by-elections would have been held as scheduled.

Mr Shakhder stated he had not accepted the arguments of the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister urging postponement [as published] of by-elections in the State.

The commission had written to the Himachal Pradesh Government asking whether by-elections to two Assembly seats could be held together with those in other States. The reply was awaited.

About the Delhi Metropolitan Council, Mr Shakhder said the commission was ready to hold elections any time.

CSO: 4220/7650

BJP NATIONAL COUNCIL SESSION OPENS IN COCHIN

Calcutta THE SUNDAY STATESMAN in English 26 Apr 81 pp 1, 7

[Article by D. P. Kumar]

[Text] Cochin, April 25.--At its working committee meeting, the BJP is understood to have decided to have no truck with the Marxists. An unequivocal and unanimous "no" was returned by the working committee today to the offers of cooperation by the CPI(M) to fight authoritarianism and the ruling party's efforts to topple Marxist Governments in States.

The working committee which has been discussing the political resolution for two days, is now preparing a final draft to be placed before the National Council session tomorrow.

Sources said there was at unanimous view in the working committee that the BJP would have nothing to do with the CPI(M) for four reasons--It is not a democratic party since it believes in violence; it is carrying on planned murders of the Opposition people and that it has got extra-territorial loyalties. [as published]

Several members, notably Mr Kanwarlal Gupta, Mr. J. P. Mathur, M.P. and Mr Jana Krishnamurthy of the general secretaries, said at the working committee meeting that the CPI(M) did not believe in the democratic process. Other members said that the Congress (I) and the CPI(M) were fighting each other in West Bengal. "Why should we help any of them? If the Congress (I) takes the opportunity to crush the CPI(M), we should not be an impediment to it".

Party sources said that the only question still to be debated by the working committee was whether the BJP should join others in demanding dismissal of the CPI(M) Government in West Bengal.

The BJP demand as far as Kerala is concerned is that Kerala's Home Minister should go because he is responsible [as published] for the clashes in Tellicherry and elsewhere, leading to the killing of BJP workers.

The attitude to others parties, [as published] it was stated, was the line taken by Mr Vajpayee. That is to say, the BJP is prepared to make adjustments with them.

In his presidential address to the party national council, Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee, said: "Circumstances have cast upon us a historical responsibility and what is

now really needed is the confidence that the BJP has the capacity to deliver the goods".

Speaking on the future of the party, Mr Vajpayee said: "There was convincing proof that the people have very high expectations of us. They recognize our sincerity, our idealism and our sense of discipline. [as published]

The National Council session was attended by nearly 1,200 delegates from all over the country.

Mr Vajpayee said since his party left the Government, the price index had shot up by 47 points. The foodgrain buffer stock had dwindled. The Congress(I) Sixth Plan is big only in expenditure but small in results. "Our plan envisaged 49 million man years of additional employment while the "bigger" Plan puts it at 34 million man years. We wanted to irrigate 17 million hectares. The new plan target is 13 million. The spiralling prices, the scaling down of Plan targets and the lopsidedness of priorities are only some of the distressing features of our economy.

"In the political field 16 months ago, Mrs Gandhi was swept back to power with a huge parliamentary majority. In the Assembly elections later, the same pattern was repeated, except in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. What followed, however, can be regarded as unprecedented. Never before has such a small span of time produced more negative results. There is today a crisis of leadership".

PTI adds: More than a hundred thousand workers of the BJP throughout India will court arrest on May 25 by demonstrating outside district headquarters in protest against the continuing rise in prices of various essential commodities, the national executive of the party decided here today.

This is in accordance with the ultimatum given to the Government by Mr Vajpayee at a public meeting at the Ramlila ground in Delhi on January 25. He had then said that if the Government failed to curb the price rise within three months, the BJP would take suitable action.

The BJP leaders were tonight busy giving final touches to their plan for a peaceful satyagraha against the "unprecedented hike" in the prices of essential commodities in which 100,00 volunteers will court arrest at district towns all over the country, adds UNI. [as published]

CSO: 4220/7651

JANATA PRESIDENT SPEAKS TO CHANDIGARH MEETING

Calcutta THE SUNDAY STATESMAN in English 26 Apr 81 p 7

[Text]

CHANDIGARH, April 25.—Mr Chandra Shekhar today said that a possible understanding between the CPI(M) and the Bharatiya Janata Party would not solve the problems created by their conflict in Kerala. The basic clash was between workers of the two parties at the grass-root level, and an understanding among leaders could not end it, he added.

The Janata Party president, who is here to attend the first party convention of its Chandigarh unit, told a Press conference that political compulsions necessitated the move for an understanding. While the CPI(M) Government was in trouble and would like BJP support at this juncture the BJP too was feeling isolated because of its image as a non-progressive party and would like to come out of that isolation. But such moves could not put an end to the basic conflict.

Mr Chandra Shekhar said that his party could not be used by Mrs Gandhi to do away with the CPI(M) Government in West Bengal. The impression that his party would help such efforts by the Congress (I) was unjustified. Janata would not let itself be used to harm the CPI(M), despite the fact that it had some basic complaints against the Marxists.

The CPI(M), he said did not differentiate between Government and party and when in power, it used the Government to promote party interests. Even in calamities like floods, it would like the relief aid to filter through party workers. He did not support such a policy. Also, whenever the Left Front came to power, Janata wanted unity on specific issues, whereas the CPI(M) leaders—he named Mr Nambudiripad—wanted its philosophy implemented in such an alliance. And this philosophy of the CPI(M) was to suit its convenience. It said that Janata wanted BJP out of the front and now it was trying to have an alliance with the BJP in Kerala. His party wanted

cooperation on people's causes and not for a political philosophy, he said.

Mr Chandra Shekhar did not see any possibility of a consensus of opposition parties in the near future. There were a few parties which felt that the Congress (I) Government was about to fall and that they could replace it. There were other political parties which claimed to have a panacea for all problems. "Can you explain to such people that for unity?" he asked.

He did not attach much importance to the Akali slogan for a separate State, as it was the result of an unfortunate split in the Akali Dal, and rival leaders' bid to raise extremist slogans to get popular support within their parties. Such slogans or leaders would not be supported by Janata, as it was against any divisive activity.

Mr Chandra Shekhar said his party was opposed to the U.S. arms aid to Pakistan, such an arms build-up would cause tension in the sub-continent unless it was accompanied with an understanding between India and Pakistan. The region was turning into an arena for the Super Powers. He did not, however, see any immediate conflict between India and Pakistan. Asked about a recent statement by Mr Morarji Desai on the subject, Mr Chandra Shekhar said that he did not think Mr Desai's views were different from the Janata Party. If so, he would like to know from Mr Desai.

CPI-M POLITBURO ISSUES STATEMENT ON BJP

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Apr 81 p 1

[Text] The CPI-M Polit-Bureau has stated that in view of the 'wide gulf' between the BJP and the CPI-M on 'vital questions of internal and external policies' there could be no 'political offer' to the former Jana Sanghites from the Marxists.

In a statement on Saturday, the PB said press reports of the 'offer' and certain BJP leaders setting conditions before accepting it had highly 'amused' the CPI-M leadership.

The two concluding paragraphs of the statement read: 'All that was said at the press conference after the (CPI-M) PB meeting was that the BJP, in view of its declared Opposition to the Cong-I Government, cannot be excluded in an appeal to fight the authoritarian forces. It is for the BJP to decide whether it wants to fight the authoritarian forces without setting any conditions. It seems it is out for setting conditions before agreeing to support the fight.

'Our party has always held that maximum understanding among political parties on such issues as defence of democracy, Opposition to Presidential form of Government, conspiracies against Left-oriented Governments will be of great help in the fight against authoritarianism'.

TRIVANDRUM: The Kerala State Executive of the (CPI) has termed the Marxist offer for collaboration with the Bharatiya Janata Party as 'a dangerous development' and expressed the hope that the Marxists would give up this stand, adds UNI.

The CPI, a major partner of the ruling Left Democratic Front in Kerala, felt that the Cong-I and the RSS had 'an opportunistic understanding' in Kerala. 'The Cong-I and the Indian Union Muslim League, the self-styled party of the minorities did not condemn the RSS atrocities', the executive said.

CSO: 4220/7653

AKALI DAL LEADER SEEKS REFERENDUM ON SIKH VIEWS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Apr 81 p 20

[Text] Chandigarh, April 23.

Mr. Sukhjinder Singh, general secretary of the Akali Dal (Longowal group), in a statement yesterday demanded that appropriate changes should be made in the constitutional framework "so that the Sikh nation can also partake of political sovereignty within India along with other sections of the Indian people and the Sikhs could preserve their separate identity."

Mr. Sukhjinder Singh told newsmen that, in order to ascertain the views of the Sikhs, "let there be a referendum on the issue among the Sikhs living in the country as well as abroad." The issue called for a serious debate.

The Akali Dal leader suggested that a special session of the Punjab assembly should be convened for the purpose.

Referring to the debate in the press and among the people on the question of Sikh nationhood, the statement said: "This marks a turning-point in Sikh awakening in the sense that the stress has now shifted from Sikh grievances to the Sikh people's inherent political rights and aspirations and their quest for preserving their identity--both religious and political--which bestow on them the character and status of a nation. The sovereignty of the Sikh people as a nation is in a sense a re-assertion, of their khalsahood dating back to Baisakhi day in 1699 when Guru Gobind Singh founded the khalsa. This cannot be dubbed expedient slogan-mongering.

Statute Reform

The Sikh nation as such seeks an appropriate constitutional reform for preserving the identity of the Sikhs as also for sharing the political sovereignty along with other sections of Indians.

"Unfortunately, the majority community that has regained political power after about ten centuries of deprivation thinks and acts as if it alone is entitled to political sovereignty and is not prepared to share it with other segments of the people. [as published]

The majority community is all out for a monolithic Centre to preserve its monopoly and self-appropriation of political sovereignty to the exclusion of other

constituents of the Indian people and, for this reason, is not prepared to permit the states to partake of political sovereignty.

Replying to a question, Mr. Sukhjinder Singh said the Sikhs had all characteristics other than sovereignty for being a nation. The Sikhs had a common language, culture, religion and also a distinct physical appearance. He called for a special status for Sikhs in the Indian Union. He explained that his party wanted autonomy for Punjab but a special status for the Sikhs in it.

Asked to elaborate what he meant by special status, the Akali leader said he would call another press conference.

The Akali leader pointed out that it was a political, and not a communal, demand. He regretted that, since 1947, the Sikhs had been branded "communal and anti-national" while they had shed their blood for the country.

Replying to another question, the Akali leader said he did not regard communist Sikhs as Sikhs as they did not believe in the ideology of Guru Gobind Singh. Asked whether the Congress (I) Sikhs were Sikhs, Mr. Sukhjinder Singh said: "Yes, those who believe in Guru Gobind Singh...merely sporting a bread and other symbols does not make a Sikh."

CSO: 4220/7642

DELHI INVITES ASSAM LEADERS FOR DISCUSSIONS

Madras THE HINDU in English 24 Apr 61 p 1

[Text] Gauhati, April 23.

The Centre's formal invitation for resumption of talks in the second week of next month in Delhi to hammer out a solution to the foreign nationals issue was today sent to the All Assam Students Union and the Gana Sangram Parishad.

Mr. Ramesh Chandra, Chief Secretary, said he had sent the invitation to them on the basis of a message received from the Union Home Ministry late last night.

The date for the talks would be fixed in consultation with the agitation leaders soon, he added.

A spokesman of the agitation leaders said the executive committees of the AASU and Sangram Parishad would meet soon and take a decision.

Basis for Talks

The Union Government is likely to accept the Gandhi Peace Foundation Committee's proposals for solving the Assam problem, according to informed sources in Calcutta.

When the talks resume in Delhi, the Government is expected to start negotiations on the basis of the committee's proposals which come more or less halfway between the cut-off year 1971 as proposed by the Centre and 1951 as desired by the All Assam Students' Union and the Gana Sangram Parishad.

Under the proposals, foreigners who came into Assam up to 1961 would be detected but they would be absorbed into the population. Those who came between 1961 and 1967 would be detected and their cases considered on individual basis: some may be allowed to stay while others would be sent back to Bangladesh. Those who came between 1967 and 1971 would have their names struck off the voters' list and sent back while those who came after 1971 would be sent back forthwith.

In effect this would mean that all those who came into Assam starting from 1951 would have to be detected and identified as foreigners. On the question of sending back people to where they came from, cut-off year would be mainly 1967 but a number of those who came between 1961 and 1967 would also be asked to go back on the basis of individual hearings. Whether Bangladesh would accept any

such person is open to question as the Government there has been insisting that no Bangladeshi has gone to Assam.

The sources also apprehended continuing violence and terrorist activities in Assam till the negotiations started in Delhi because the agitators might want to strengthen their bargaining position.

Regarding links between Assam extremists and other North-Eastern insurgents, the sources said the Muivahizzak group of Naga rebels (operating from Burma) and the People's Liberation Army of Manipur had some links. The extremists were being trained in insurgency operations by some personnel of the Special Security Branch (SSB) in Assam and there was enough evidence to support this theory.

The SSB was created in 1962 as a counter-insurgency force designed to tackle the Chinese in the border States in case they occupied any areas of these States.

CSO: 4220/7643

CRISIS BETWEEN JAMMU, KASHMIR AND DELHI DESCRIBED

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 25 Apr 81 p 8

[Editorial]

[Text] A grave crisis has developed between the Centre and Jammu and Kashmir state government. This is not a sudden development. The relations between the two have been uneasy ever since Mrs. Gandhi returned to power in New Delhi in January 1980. While the Prime Minister has been flooded with complaints against Sheikh Abdullah from, among others, her partymen in the state who have accused him of corruption, favouritism, arbitrariness and deliberate attempts to stifle the opposition, the chief minister has been nursing the suspicion that she is out to topple him. On more than one occasion Mrs. Gandhi has tried to assure him that he would be allowed to complete his term and sought in return an assurance from him that he would allow opposition parties, including the Congress (I), to function freely. But these attempts at reconciliation have at best produced a temporary truce. Only three weeks ago the Prime Minister undertook a whirlwind tour of the Jammu region to underline the point that like other state governments, Sheikh Abdullah's was critically dependent on the Centre's support and to "set the record straight" in respect of events which culminated in the Sheikh's return to office in Srinagar in 1975 after 22 years in wilderness. This was apparently her way to leave the chief minister in no doubt that he could not go on defying the Centre with impunity.

All this could not but be a matter of serious concern. For Jammu and Kashmir is not just another state. It has a distinct personality and its accession to the Indian Union is disputed by Pakistan which continues to cast a covetous eye on it. In plain terms, the country's security interests require close co-operation and trust between the Centre and the state government on the one hand and social peace in the state--understanding among political parties, groups and communities--on the other. That is why all non-partisan Indians have shared the hope that Mrs. Gandhi and Sheikh Abdullah would find the means to settle their differences. But instead of improving, the situation has taken a dramatic turn for the worse. Sheikh Abdullah and his administration might not have been involved in the attack by a mob in income-tax officers who had gone to Srinagar to search the premises of a business firm. But the local authorities refused to come to the assistance of the officers who had gone there on behalf of the Centre. The attack itself followed a visit to the premises by Dr. Farooq Abdullah, the Sheikh's son and political heir. And the proprietor of the firm is said to be related to the Sheikh.

We are not narrating these facts to draw the inference that either the Sheikh himself or Dr. Abdullah organised the attack. It is also open to question whether those who ordered the income-tax raid showed sufficient sensitivity to the political reality, especially in the new context of a marked deterioration in the country's security environment. But there cannot be the slightest doubt that the refusal of the local authorities to come to the rescue of the income-tax officers constitutes a most blatant defiance of the Centre. Again, the Sheikh may not be personally responsible for it. But he has not disowned responsibility for it and he has not ordered an inquiry into the conduct of the officials concerned. This is enough to show that he is on a collision course with New Delhi. This is provocation enough for the Congress (I) to demand his dismissal. But political reality cannot be disposed of in terms of constitutional provisions or conventions. Jammu and Kashmir, as we said earlier, is not just another state. Developments there have to be handled with great care and deliberation. Even at this late stage Mrs. Gandhi and Sheikh Abdullah should find it possible to bury the hatchet and cooperate in the country's larger interests. Mrs. Gandhi's responsibility, it can be argued, is the greater because she is India's Prime Minister. But the Sheikh cannot either ignore the fact that she put him back into office in 1975 or evade his share of responsibility for cordial relations between the state and the Centre. Both must rise to the occasion and not allow smaller men around them to poison the atmosphere.

CSO: 4220/7646

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE SESSION

Calcutta THE SUNDAY STATESMAN in English 26 Apr 81 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, April 25.--The President today asked industrialists to make a sustained effort to achieve an annual production growth rate of at least 10% during the Sixth Plan period. If this were done jointly with the Government and the people, he was confident that the 1980s would achieve new heights.

Opening the 54th annual session of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Mr Sanjiva Reddy said the stage was set for a "massive investment" effort in India. This effort should be able to remove all the clogs in the economy.

Mr Reddy said India's rating was internationally recognized to be among the best and that he was confident that the industrial economy would be progressively internationalized, with India not as a receiver but as a partner.

He said millions of Indians lived below the poverty line waiting patiently for the day when the standard of living would improve. Economic growth would have to go side by side with social justice.

"As I have said before, concentration of wealth in a few hands will not augur well for the country. The benefits of growth have to be shared equitably. Your federation should give serious thought to this subject before it is too late", the President said.

"Black Sheep"

Mr Reddy accepted that the mixed economy concept was most suitable for India, but he pointed to the presence of "black sheep" in every sphere. The country had to be rid of them.

Unaccounted money was playing havoc with the economy and society and its value systems. Such money was held by a handful of people, mainly in industry, trade and similar economic activities.

"They tend to feel that everyone has a price-tag and if they succeed in purchasing those in power and authority, the results could be deadly. Professional federations and associations like your's should expose the "black sheep". [as published]

Noting the improvement in the performance of infrastructure in the past few months, the President said that a climate of growth would be created with the combined efforts of the public and private sector. "I may, however, mention that there should be a healthy competition between the public and private sectors which would be beneficial for efficient functioning of both" he added.

India should become a "developed" country by the turn of the century. If small countries could achieve a high rate of growth, there was no reason why India could not also do so.

In a message, Mrs Gandhi said that in the past few months, several measures had been adopted by the Government to help industry and trade lift the economy from the sluggishness into which it had sunk. "The private sector must now demonstrate that it can rise to the challenges" she said.

Mrs Gandhi felt that the session's discussions would be useful if they were constructive and recognized the complementary role of the private and public sectors. In every field of economy, the urgent need is to increase production and improve productivity.

Earlier, Mr K. N. Modi, president of FICCI, said it was reassuring that the Prime Minister took the first opportunity to understand the problems facing the Indian economy and took a series of measures to tone up development.

Even so, there were certain issues which had to be considered to ensure that the growth of industry was stepped up at least to bring it up to about 8% to 9% as envisaged in the Sixth Plan. Mr Modi said that this rate of growth was possible if some corrective measures were taken.

In spite of many favourable factors, the country was not able to produce adequately even items like cement soda ash or paper in which it had a comparative advantage. As a result, imports were made and valuable foreign exchange to the extent of Rs 2,000 crores was used.

Industry was finding it difficult to implement even the licences that had been issued. Mr Modi emphasized that for the new companies to implement projects, some steps were required. They included a fair return on investment, reduction of corporate taxation and changes in other policies which would enable industry to pay dividend comparable to the present rate of interest, modification of the "impractical" guidelines laid down by the financial institutions for term lending and revival of the new capital issue market to help industry raise enough funds.

The federation called for the reorientation of policies and procedures on control of production, distribution and prices, so that those found redundant were abolished.

In a resolution on the role of trade in effective distribution adopted on the first day of the session, the federation sought the consolidation of multiple licences in wholesale and retail trade.

The resolution called for the replacement of sales tax, "an unremitting source of harassment and corruption", with additional excise duty. Since this would take a long time, "early action should be taken to simplify and streamline laws and procedures, with maximum uniformity".

HOME MINISTER ADDRESSED COMMUNAL HARMONY COMMITTEE

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 25 Apr 81 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, April 24.--A code of conduct is to be evolved soon to ensure that political parties do not encourage communal or caste propaganda, reports UNI.

Mr Zail Singh, Union Home Minister, today told the first meeting of the committee on communal harmony set up by the National Integration Council that he would soon convene a meeting of leaders of all parties to evolve this code.

The committee noted the marked decline in communal incidents since October last year but expressed concern over the increase in caste tension in some parts of the country.

It was stressed that in view of the situation in the neighbouring countries and in view of external threats, forces of unity should be strengthened.

Today's meeting was attended by 16 of the 24 committee members, including 10 Chief Ministers. The Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister, Sheikh Abdullah, had sent a message saying that he was unable to attend the meeting. A number of suggestions were made and it was decided to hold a two-day session to discuss the various issues in detail.

It was felt that while there had been a decline in communal incidents since October last year, caste conflict had increased a great deal, particularly in Gujarat. However, there had been an improvement in the situation in Gujarat.

The members agreed with the Home Minister's opening remarks that there was no room for complacency. The general view was that the council should be active. Similar integration committees should be set up at the State level and should be extended to district and even sub-divisional levels.

The members stressed the need to use mass media to promote cohesion and to counter-act disruptive and divisive forces. It was felt that the mass media could play a more effective role.

It was said that the political parties should mobilize opinion against all caste and communal movements and create a climate in favour of unity.

A suggestion for an appeal by religious leaders to political parties not to support communal or caste movements evoked different opinions. It was felt that if such an appeal had to be made by this committee, it had to be discussed in detail.

While noting that the principle of reservation was not negotiable, several members held that some aspects of the reservation policy, particularly in regard to promotion and technical education, including professional courses, might be reviewed.

On the question of Khalistan, the general view was that the movement had the support of very few people and only the Press had given it respectability which it did not deserve.

CSO: 4220/7647

FINANCE MINISTER ANNOUNCES TAX PLANS, CONCESSIONS

Madras THE HINDU in English 23 Apr 81 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, April 22.

The Finance Minister, Mr. R. Venkataraman, today announced a few concessions to export-oriented units by way of investment allowance and tax holiday, giving them the option available under the schemes relating to free trade zones and the existing tax concessions.

Moving the Finance Bill for 1981-82 to give effect to the budget proposals in the Lok Sabha, he also restored the pre-budget position in respect of excise duties covering goods produced by units not covered by the Factories Act.

An important announcement he made was the proposal to introduce a Bill to extend the provisions under the Income-Tax Act to arm the Government with powers to combat suspected black money transactions involved in the transfer of flats or premises owned through the medium of cooperative societies and companies.

The other "liberalisations" related to tax deductions available to Hindu undivided families and resident individuals for medical treatment of handicapped persons and tax concessions available to companies engaged in oil prospecting and exploration.

Duty on Newsprint

Mr. Venkataraman announced that bigger newspapers (having a circulation exceeding 50,000) would have to pay the full customs duty of 15 per cent on imported newsprint.

The reliefs for small and medium newspapers are: Small newspapers will not pay the 15 per cent import duty, while the medium newspapers will get their newsprint at a price which will include five per cent import duty. The reliefs will amount to Rs. 5.86 crores.

Only in respect of this import duty relief did the Minister quantify the revenue sacrifice involved in the minor concessions he announced.

The concessions, relaxations and clarifications announced by Mr. Venkataraman are:

The Concessions

(i) Export-oriented industries in free trade zones: Since it has been represented that the new scheme may prove less advantageous to some capital-intensive units with long gestation periods as compared to the benefits available in the case of new industrial undertakings in the rest of India, "I propose to give an option to tax-payers deriving income from industrial undertakings in the free trade zones to choose between the complete tax holiday proposed in the Bill and the existing tax concessions, whichever they find attractive."

Pre-budget Position Restored

(ii) As part of the budget proposals, it was sought to bring into the excise duty net units producing goods assessable to duty under Item 68 of the Central Excise Tariff if they did not come within the purview of the Factories Act when their production exceeded the exemption limit of Rs. 30 lakhs a year.

In response to representations, the Government with a view to avoiding any hardship to the small entrepreneur has decided to restore the position as obtaining prior to the presentation [as published] of the budget.

As a result of this, units producing goods classifiable under Item 68 which do not fall within the definition of factories under the Factories Act will not have to pay any excise duty.

For Oil Exploration

(iii) Off-shore oil exploration and production: Since it has been brought to the notice of the Government that some of the services rendered by those engaged in prospecting for or extraction or production of mineral oils in the off-shore areas will not fall within the well-understood connotation of the expression, "technical services", and since it is intended to make the provision applicable to all types of contract entered into with the "authorised persons" operating in the off-shore areas, the scope of the relevant provision in the Bill will also extend to those providing services or facilities or supply of any ship, aircraft, machinery or plant, whether by way of sale or hire, for oil extraction and production.

A similar amendment is proposed to be made in the provision relating to the Companies (Profits) Surtax Act, 1964.

Relief to Small, Medium Papers

(iv) Newsprint: In pursuance of his earlier assurance that he would try to provide relief to smaller and medium newspapers, Mr. Venkataraman gave the details and modalities of the scheme he has since worked out.

The State Trading Corporation will sell imported newsprint to small newspapers at a price which will not include any amount relatable to import duty.

Medium newspapers will get their newsprint at a price which will include an amount relatable to import duty of only five per cent ad valorem.

Big newspapers will, however, pay a price which will reflect the full duty burden of 15 per cent ad valorem.

Suitable financial arrangements will be worked out as between Government and the STC to enable the latter to give effect to these concessions.

The STC will, for purposes of the present scheme, follow the same categorisation of newspapers as small, medium and big in terms of circulation already understood in the industry and is being followed by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for purposes of determining initial allocation of newsprint and for setting the rates of growth of consumption of newsprint by various newspapers from year to year.

Transfer of Flats

(v) Black money transactions: The Income-Tax Act already contains provisions empowering the Central Government to acquire immovable properties in certain cases of transfer to counteract evasion of tax. These provisions are, however, applicable only in cases of transfer of immovable properties by way of sale or exchange and do not cover cases of other types of transfer.

"I propose to introduce a Bill to extend these provisions to cover transfer of flats or premises owned through the medium of cooperative societies and companies, agreements of sale followed by performances as visualised in Section 53-A of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, and long-term leases.

These provisions will curb the widespread practice of understating the value of immovable properties in case of transfer with the purpose of avoiding proper tax liability and check the circulation of black money." [as published]

For the Disabled

(vi) Handicapped persons: At present, resident individuals and Hindu undivided families incurring expenditure on medical treatment of handicapped dependents are entitled to a deduction of a specified amount in the computation of their taxable income.

The deduction specified in this behalf is Rs. 2,400 in a case where such dependent has been hospitalised for not less than 182 days during the previous year and Rs. 600 in any other case.

The Finance Bill seeks to raise the monetary limits from Rs. 2,400 to Rs. 4,800 and Rs. 600 to Rs. 1,200.

The Bill does not, however, envisage any modification of the existing conditions that the quantum of deduction will be reduced by the income of the handicapped dependent in the previous year and that the deduction will be admissible only with reference to one chosen handicapped dependent in a case where the tax-payer has to maintain more than one such dependent.

It is proposed to liberalise the provision in order to secure that the quantum of deduction for medical treatment of handicapped dependent will not be reduced by the income of such dependent and the expenditure for hospitalisation of all physically handicapped dependents will be admissible as deduction.

CPI LEADER RAO STATEMENT PROTESTS ATROCITIES

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 25 Apr 81 p 7

[Text] CPI general secretary C Rajeswara Rao noted on Friday that in the last 18 months of Cong-I rule, slave trade flesh trade and atrocities against the down-trodden sections had grown considerably in different parts of the country.

In a statement he said this development had taken place despite Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's declared concern for the downtrodden sections and women. 'It is high time the Left and democratic forces look up this as a most important task to organise and lead these sections in putting up stiff resistance against such atrocities', he added.

Underlining the fact that the police were often colluding with the tyrants and anti-social elements, Mr Rao referred to 'ghastly' reports confirming the perpetuation of the slave labour system through 'unscrupulous exploitation of the poverty and ignorance of the toiling people who are enticed into bonded labour by contractors, landlords and their agents'. This had proved the Cong-I Government's claim of having abolished the bonded system to be as hollow as its other claims.

He pointed to the heart-rending tale of scores of bonded labourers who were kept as slaves by a brick kiln owner in Patiala district of Punjab; agricultural workers and Adivasis of Bihar, eastern UP and MP who went to Punjab seeking work during the agricultural season and were forced into inhuman bonded labour system by landlords operating with police connivance.

CSO: 4220/7649

SECURITY TIGHTENED IN KASHMIR BORDER AREAS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 23 Apr 81 p 4

[Text] Srinagar, April 22.

Security measures in the border districts of Baramulla and Kupwara in the Kashmir valley have been tightened and local administration 'alerted against activities of subversive elements' following the recent theft of idols from four temples and seizure of clandestine arms and ammunition reportedly manufactured in Pakistan.

An official handout yesterday quoted deputy commissioner of Baramulla announcing incentives for officials giving clues to subversive activities in their respective areas.

The hand-out also said the local administration had been alerted against activities of anti-national and anti-social elements seeking to undermine peace along the border belt.

Meanwhile, security agencies were reported to have yesterday seized three more rifles from Bandipore area. Earlier, one rifle and one revolver were recovered from Sopore. The sources claimed that the seized arms carried Pakistani markings.

Two persons, Bashig Ahmed and Mohammed Akbar, arrested at Sopore are, being interrogated. The total number of arrests in connection with yesterday's arms haul was not immediately known.

Unofficial reports claimed that the security agencies had seized a large quantum of smuggled arms and ammunition during extensive raids in the districts last week. The seized arms reportedly included stenguns, rifles, revolvers and knives.

It may be recalled that theft of temple idols in quick succession has been causing unrest among the minority community, on the suspicion that the incidents were communally motivated. Government circles have, however, refuted it, insisting that the thefts were linked with antique smuggling racket.

CSO: 4220/7640

GOVERNMENT CONCERNED OVER ATTACKS ON NEWSMEN

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 23 Apr 81 p 21

[Text] New Delhi, April 22 (PTI).

Attacks on journalists in recent months have evoked concern among professional bodies, which regard this as a threat to press freedom.

The government has time and again reaffirmed its commitment to freedom of the press, both inside Parliament and state legislatures and outside. However, cases of assaults and harassment of journalists engaged in the discharge of their duties by anti-social elements, by the police and certain political forces have been reported from various parts of the country.

The press council, a body set up in March 1979 for the purpose of preserving the freedom of the press and maintaining and improving its standards, has been looking into some of the complaints.

As an autonomous and statutory body, the press council, according to the government, is the appropriate authority to look into allegations of infringement of the freedom of the press on receipt of complaints on "suo moto". The more serious cases inevitably go to courts of law.

Exposure Resented

Resentment over exposure of political corruption or mal-administration and of clandestine deals or misdeeds of anti-social elements is behind many attacks, judging by reports from various centres.

The most gruesome of such incidents was the rape and murder of Chabirani Mohapatra, wife of Mr. Naba Kishore Mohapatra, a journalist of Orissa, in October last year.

In another incident J. Rana, the correspondent of a daily newspaper in Puri, was arrested by the police. He was reported to have been handcuffed and dragged through the streets of the town and forced to drink urine. The police, however, denied the reports.

Among the series of incidents was the storming of newspaper offices in Bangalore (Karnataka) and Cuttack (Orissa) in protest against certain published reports.

The most recent such case has been the assault in his office on the editor of a Hindi daily, JANAWARTA, in Varanasi.

The incident was a sequel to the publication of a news item in the paper about a swami. The assailants were stated to be the followers of the swami, who is reported to have made utterances against some local swamis, including Karpatriji and Bhagwan Awadhoot Ram.

Three of the assailants were arrested on the spot, while efforts were stated to be on to apprehend the remaining three accused.

The Uttar Pradesh government has announced the setting up of a cell to investigate incidents of assault and harassment of working journalists while on duty.

The attacks on the offices of PRAJATANTRA and MATHRUBHUMI in Cuttack were over allegations of the publication of a false report, scandalising some students of the local medical college.

While SAMAJ, one of the three papers which had carried the report published a contradiction the next day, the other two did not and were, therefore the target of attack.

The state government has stated it has taken preventive measures to ensure that no such untoward incident takes place in future.

Bangalore Siege

The incident also highlights the question of the right to privacy of a citizen as in this case a woman student of a medical college was sought to be "scandalised".

Possibly one of the most controversial of happenings and one which generated a lot of heat related to the blockade of four Bangalore dailies by about 300 people allegedly belonging to the youth Congress (I).

They were protesting against a report contending that chappals were hurled at the chief minister while he was attending a meeting in Dharwad district. The 'gherao' of the papers--DECCAN HERALD and its sister language publication, PRAJAVANI, and INDIAN EXPRESS and its language daily, KANNADA PRABHA--was lifted the next morning.

Six persons were arrested and released on bail later. The press council of India was inquiring into the matter "suo moto".

In the neighbouring state of Tamil Nadu, two teams of journalists on a fact-finding mission in a Naxalite stronghold in Tiruppattur taluk of North Arcot district were attacked by a crowd and also allegedly beaten up by the police.

One of the teams was from Bombay and included besides journalists, sociologists and human rights activists. The other team, which followed a month later, included two reporters of a leading English daily of Madras.

Both the teams had ultimately to abandon the mission they had undertaken after the bomb blast, which claimed the lives of one police inspector and two Naxalites and caused grievous injuries to three constables.

In Maharashtra in February this year, the reporter of a Bombay weekly was beaten up by a 'slum lord' following the publication of a report in the weekly about his "terrorising activities" among the slum dwellers in the city.

In another incident in the state, a photographer of a Bombay daily lost his camera. He was also administered a warning by a confirmed housebreaker sentenced to a life term by the high court for having taken the photograph of the convict as he was coming out of the court.

The police have taken up investigation of a case of rioting and armed assault against the slum lord, while the concerned newspaper had filed a complaint against the lifer.

Assembly Boycott

Another incident, which raised a storm of protest related to the attack on a press party in a village in Bharatpur district of Rajasthan by some persons said to belong to a political party in November, 1980.

The incident took place when the pressmen, belonging to state and national dailies on a round of the Weir (SC) constituency from where the state chief minister was seeking election, were prevented from entering a booth.

The entire press corps in Rajasthan boycotted the assembly proceedings for a day in protest against the incident and succeeded in wresting an assurance of an impartial enquiry from the chief minister.

In Madhya Pradesh two journalists of a daily in Jabalpur were "insulted and harassed" by the lower grade staff of a government hospital for a report on the conditions in the hospital. One of the journalists, who was an in-patient in the hospital, was threatened and abused.

In another incident, the office of a newspaper, NAVEEN DUNIA, was stoned by students, while they observed Jabalpur bandh on February 6 to protest against the death of an engineering students. [as published]

The editor of DAMAN TIMES in Daman taluka of Goa was arrested early this year for the publication of a letter in his paper, which according to the government, amounted to instigating the police to revolt. The editor denied this.

The local correspondent of WEST COAST TIMES in Goa, Miguel Mascarenhas, was picked up by the police on Christmas Day, seven months after the forcible removal of a municipal councillor from municipal premises.

The allegation against Mascarenhas was that he was a member of the Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party, which had master-minded the abduction. The charge was again denied.

ADILABAD DISTRICT SCENE OF NAXALITE ACTIVITY

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 23 Apr 81 p 21

[Text] Hyderabad, April 22 (UNI).

Adilabad district, where 13 tribals were killed in police firing on Monday after they fatally stabbed a constable, has been the scene of intense Naxalite activity for the past few months.

Recently declared a drought-affected area, the district, bordering Chandrapur district of Maharashtra, has dense forests covering 40 per cent of its area and about 200,000 Gond tribals. They mostly live in and around Adilabad, Utnoor, Vamkidi Asifabad, Sirpur and Luxettipet. The next biggest tribe is Lambadas. Most of the tribals are very poor and illiterate.

Extremists of various groups, particularly the "people's war group" of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) led by Mondapalli Seetharamaiah and their front organisations like the Rytu Coolie Sangham have been functioning there since 1975.

The CPI (ML) formed "Dalams" (teams) of 15 members each equipped with fire-arms and explosives and according to the police, the teams were instigating the Gond tribals to fell trees and occupy forest lands.

Gonds Misled

The Lambadas have been classified as scheduled tribes and the Mathuras for all practical purposes live like tribals though not classified as a scheduled tribe but the "dalams" have been telling the Gonds that Lambadas and Mathuras were non-tribals who were being given by the government lands taken away from the Gonds.

There had always been some traditional hostility between Gonds and the more dynamic Lambadas, which the "dalams" had been trying to exploit.

Under directions from the extremists, the Gonds beat drums and collect in large numbers, armed with axes, sticks and sickles whenever revenue, forest or police officers visit the area of prevent them from performing their duties.

The Gonds were also being instigated to forcibly harvest the crops of Lambadas and non-tribals and even indulge in dacoities, the police said.

The extremists have also been instigating the tribals to establish an independent Gond "kingdom". Extremist leaders like Dasari Lakshmikantham alias Porakala Dora, Gajjali Gangaram and Bandala Ramulu, all non-tribals, have been organising the tribals.

The Girijan sangham meeting on Monday at Indervalli village, 35 km from Adilabad, was to be addressed by activists of various Naxalite front organisations, like Mr. Kobad Gandhi of the Organisation for Protection of Democratic Rights (OPDR), Bombay, Mr. Ranganatham of the Civil Liberties Committee, Mr. Lingamurthy of Revolutionary Students Union (RSU) and Mr. Hima Jwala of Revolutionary Workers' Association (RWA).

To counter the attempts to take away their lands, the non-tribals rights protection committee wanted to hold a meeting at the village on the same day.

CSO: 4220/7635

PUBLIC SECTOR UNITS EXCEED PRODUCTION TARGETS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 11 Apr 81 p 10

[Text] New Delhi, April 22: Four of the public-sector undertaking under the department of heavy industry exceeded their production targets in 1980-81, according to an official release.

They are: The Burn Standard and Co. (108 per cent), the Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels (107 per cent), the Lagan Jute (104 per cent) and the Bharat Brakes and Valves (101 per cent).

The Hindustan Machine Tools achieved a production of Rs. 186.3 crores or 84 per cent of the target while the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation achieved 85 per cent of the target.

A significant step-up in production was recorded between October and March--58 per cent over that between April and September, 1980.

However, the order book position of some of these units continues to cause concern. In the case of the Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels, a leading manufacturer of plant and equipment, the order book position at the end of October was Rs 4,523 lakhs against the minimum requirement of Rs. 7,500 lakhs.

The order book position of Bharat Pumps and Compressors Ltd., which stood at Rs. 2,166 lakhs on October 31, was also grossly inadequate.

Export orders received by the undertakings under the department during the year totalled Rs. 139 crores. These included an order worth Rs. 50.42 crores awarded to Engineering Projects (India) for expansion of the grain storage silos project in Iraq.

CSO: 4220/7635

STATES FAILING TO FUND LARGER PLAN REQUIREMENTS

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 22 Apr 81 p 1

[Text]

NEW DELHI, April 21.—Nearly all the States may be asked to cut their plan outlays for 1981-82 following their failure to mobilise additional resources in the latest budgets. They had been allowed higher plan outlays by the Planning Commission after giving assurances that they would raise their own resources to fund their larger annual plans for the current year.

The States have failed to carry out these assurances. In fact, total deficit is Rs 884 crores for 1981-82, mainly because almost all of them have not imposed any addi-

tional taxes and have left large budgetary deficits uncovered.

Till now, only Punjab has asked for additional assistance of Rs 20 crores from the Centre to balance its budget and the demand has been rejected. Other States making similar requests can expect to be treated in the same manner.

The only other way that the States can raise resources for their plans is to economise on non-plan expenditure. But this has always been marginal help in the past and can be expected to be inconsequential this year too.

It is expected that the Centre and the Planning Commission will

soon hold talks with the States on their annual plans for 1981-82 with a view to scaling them down since the States have not carried out assurances given by them while the plans were being finalised. The alternative would be to allow part of the plans to lapse or be phased over a longer period.

Many of the States, notably West Bengal, which has a large overdraft on the Reserve Bank, have complained that they are not, unlike the Centre, allowed recourse to deficit financing and have asked for additional Central assistance. The demand has been rejected.

CSO: 7632

BIHAR TAKES STEPS TO PROTECT HARIJANS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 15 Apr 81 p 4

[Text] Patna, April 14

The Bihar Cabinet at its meeting today approved the proposal for the creation of three battalions of Home Guards, in view of the increasing cases of atrocities on Harijans, Adivasis and minorities, and other weaker sections.

The new battalions will not allow the weaker section to be deprived of their land, help them to acquire possession of land and protect them from the excesses of land-owners and money-lenders. In addition, they will help the weaker sections to secure the benefits of the 20 point programme, organise the poor and maintain peace in the villages.

Besides Home Guard training, the battalions will be educated about the 20-point programme, communal harmony and national integration.

Such officers will be chosen for these battalions as are dedicated and committed. As for jawans, they must possess the secondary school examination certificate and they, too, will be required to show INC national inclination and interest in their new work.

The new battalions, will be governed by the same rules and regulations which apply to the Home Guards.

The cabinet sanctioned for these battalions posts of three commandants in the rank of additional superintendent of police, [as published] six deputy commandants (in the rank of deputy superintendent of police), 24 inspectors, 78 company commanders, 2,589 jawans besides a few other posts. The exchequer will bear an additional expenditure of about Rs 1.68 crore on these battalions.

Secondary Schools

The Cabinet also decided to open four secondary schools, including one for girls, in every block of the State.

During the current financial year, 150 such schools will be opened.

Of these 150 schools, 108 will be opened in Chotanagpur and the Santhal Parganas area and the remaining 42 in other places. In Chotanagpur and the Santhal Parganas,

79 schools will be for the boys and 29 for girls, while in other areas, 9 such schools will be for boys and 33 for girls.

With the opening of these schools, each block will have at least two secondary schools and in girls schools will be established in 214 blocks by the year end.
[as published]

CSO: 4220/7581

ENERGY MINISTER PREDICTS SURPLUS POWER BY 1984-85

Madras THE HINDU in English 23 Apr 81 p 7

[Text] New Delhi, April 22.

Mr. Vikram Mahajan, Minister of State for Energy, today held out the hope that the contry would be surplus in power by 1984-85.

Super thermal power stations were being set up in every region besides other projects to meet the national objective, Mr. Mahajan said replying to a debate on a calling-attention motion tabled by Mr. S. S. Bhandari (BJP) and others on the shortage of power in Rajasthan.

The Minister said the power situation had shown improvement in the past one year. Its shortage was reduced to 15 per cent last month as against 23 per cent in March last year.

An experts committee of engineers was visiting every power station to identify the faults and suggest remedies.

The committee had already covered about 30 power stations.

The power position would certainly become comfortable in Rajasthan after the recommissioning of the Rajasthan atomic power project unit I in a few days.

Mr. Bhandari; Mr Shiv Chandra Jha (Janata) and Mr Ramanand Yadav (Cong-I) complained that the two atomic plants in Rajasthan suffered breakdowns frequently. The causes must be studied thoroughly.--PTI.

CSO: 4220/7638

HIMACHAL PRADESH CHIEF MINISTER WRITES ON FARMERS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 15 Apr 81 Supplement p 7

[Article by Ram Lall, Chief Minister]

[Text] Diversion of land from traditional coarse-grains to high-yielding fruits and cash crops, expanding net-work of roads, grant of ownership rights to tenants and creation of adequate infrastructure to provide facilities and incentives to farmers in Himachal Pradesh have gone a long way in their economic emancipation.

Uplift of Himachal's rural poor, which had posed a gigantic problem in 1948, when Himachal Pradesh was formed by integration of 30 and odd hill States, had been achieved to a considerable extent, thanks to successful cultivation of fruits and cash crops and their processing and marketing. Before planned development was introduced in Himachal Pradesh, 93 per cent of its population depended primarily on agriculture which was then largely an unproductive proposition due to low fertility of soil, extreme climate, small holdings etc.

Revolutionary land reforms were introduced in the State to abolish big landed estates and confer proprietary right on both occupancy and non-occupancy tenants who had in fact been tilling the lands for generations, on payment of token compensation to their previous landlords.

The landless farmers were given five bighas of farm land each while petty farmers, whose holdings were less than five bighas were given more land so as to make these five bighas each. Nearly two lac tenants, landless tillers and petty farmer families have been benefited so far. These steps have helped usher in new enthusiasm in the countryside and considerably helped in raising farm output.

A well thought-out change in cropping pattern from foodgrains to cash crops was given a start about 25 years ago to increase productivity and return per unit area. Horticulture offered the most appropriate cropping pattern for hilly conditions as it could achieve optimum utilisation of limited land and also enable farmers to benefit by climatic and vegetative resources of the State. At the same time fruits could help fetch highest income per unit area.

Within two and a half decades of introduction of horticulture as a major development programme, the State had risen from a place of insignificance to one of prominence on the farm map of the country. Area under fruit rose from 800 hect. in mid-fifties to 85,000 last year. Production has risen 200 folds and today a production potential of 3.30 lac tonnes has been achieved in the State.

Not only did the production of fruits in the State increased [as published] tremendously, but there has been a remarkable improvement in quality of fruits also. Apples from Himachal have won top honour in every All India Competition held so far. All India Citrus Shows held in 1976, 1977, 1980 and recently have established that Himachal has a big potential for even-sub-tropical fruits too. [as published] 'Kinnow' plantations have been able to fetch as high returns as any other fruit including apple. This fruit will go a long way in horticultural development of lower areas.

Appropriate horticultural planning has exploded the myth that lower hills and valley areas were horticulturally marginal. Not only has 'Kinnow' opened new vistas but mango, litchi, pear etc. have also proved to be premium fruits in such areas.

Fig and hill lemon are specific to lower hills and, therefore, offer great potential for their development. There already had been a big spurt in plantation activities in this region and an annual growth rate of 13.3 per cent has been achieved in the plantation programme of sub-tropical fruits. Last year, about 3200 hectares of additional area was brought under sub-tropical fruits which corresponds to 64 per cent of the total plantation target fixed for the State.

For the mid-hill zone, efforts are being made to develop more remunerative crops, apart from stone fruits, particularly canning variety peaches. Pecan-nut and olive are being promoted in this region as these hold promise for promotion of exports and substitution of imports.

Millions of wild olive trees, in the mid-hills, mostly in pastures and forests, are being top-worked with improved varieties so as to quickly develop plantations. Such olive belts, once fully developed would help in full substitution of import of olive [as published] oil worth several crores of rupees. The State Government has plans to develop about 3,000 hectares of olive plantation with a potential yield of 10,000 tonnes of fruit of 2000 tonnes of oil valued at Rs 6 crores. Assistance from foreign countries is being sought for the purpose.

At higher altitudes, where apple and other temperate fruits are being grown extensively, the potentially [as published] is yet to be fully exploited. Efforts made during the recent years have indicated that Lahaul Valley is suitable for production of world's best quality hops. This product is currently being imported from continental countries to meet the demand of the brewing industry. Lahaul Valley has sufficient potential to not only fully substitute the imports but also produce hops for export. Much more can be produced in the adjoining Spiti Valley and Kinnaur District where also climatic conditions are ideal for this crop.

Dry fruits and nuts like dried apricots, prunes, apple and pear rings, almond, walnut etc., are other products which hold great promise for the cold and dry zones of Kinnaur, Spiti, Lahaul Pangi and Bharmour. All these being low-volume [as published] high cost products need fullest exploitation for the economic uplift of local tribal population. Already 3500 hectares has been brought under fruits in these areas.

Another significant factor which has contributed to strengthening the economy of the farmers of this Pradesh has been rapid expansion of road net-work. In 1948 there were only 288 Kms. of roads in the Pradesh, with the road density standing

at the meagre level of 1.01 Km per 100 Sq Kms. The per capita income then was Rs 216.60 and the Gross National Product of the State no more than Rs 24 crores. As a net-work of roads expanded to reach 12418 Kms in 1980, with the road density going up to 22.30, the per capita income jumped to Rs 1267 and the State's GNP now stands at Rs 512 crores.

The State has now added another dimension to its policy of opening up hitherto land-locked areas. In addition to expanding road net work still further during the 6th Plan, Himachal has also decided to go in for cableways in a big way so that villages located atop steep hills or in isolated areas can be linked with the main roads in the shortest possible time and without any damage to the stability of the steep hillsides.

In the field of forests, without which life is perhaps not even possible in the hills, Himachal has adopted a policy which will be a pace-setter for all others.

A massive afforestation programme was launched last year with the plantation of four crore trees. A perspective Plan drawn up for the next 20 years envisages that 50 per cent of the area of the State will be under green cover by the end of this century.

Complete nationalisation of timber extraction during the next three years has been decided upon and a start is being made this year in selected forest divisions. The decision will help eliminate illicit forest felling and at the same time help in larger survival of fresh plantation. Complete State trading in resin and ban on its export by individuals and creation of a revolving fund for providing credit to the needy owners of private forests to minimise temptation for premature fellings have also been decided upon.

Roadside and Kuhlside plantations are also being taken up. The policy of grant of timber to right-holders is also being rationalised to help the farmer, save the forests and at the same time eliminate bickerings between foresters and farmers. A separate Soil Conservation Deptt. (as published) is also to be set up to save farm lands from being washed away.

The future programme also includes introduction of crop insurance so that the farmers are compensated in case of damage to crop by natural calamities or vagaries of weather. The commissioning of Asia's most modern fruit processing plant at Parwanu will greatly help in fetching proper price for unmarketable fruits and vegetables. Marketing of cash crops like seed potato, ginger and vegetables is also receiving adequate attention. At the same time mushroom, Chicary and hop cultivation is being expanded.

Harijan farmers, who constitute nearly one-fifth of the peasant community, are being given special amenities in the shape of subsidy on fertilizers, high-yielding seeds, pesticides. At least 20,000 Harijan families will be helped in the current year through grant of cheap credit through the State Scheduled Castes Development Corporation. All Harijan villages are to be linked by roads within next three years. During 1981-82, 5500 Harijan houses will be given free single-point installation as part of the overall package of subsidised electrification of 27,000 Harijan houses under a three-year programme.

Besides giving land to the landless tillers, the houseless persons who were given free house-sites and aid to build house, will now be given build-up houses. About a thousand houseless persons are to be gifted these houses this very year. About 43,000 old peasants and widows are being given monthly pension this year. All primary school students from families with a monthly income of under Rs 500 will get monthly stipends.

This year, the Government has taken some drastic measure to give relief in rural indebtedness, specially to small and marginal farmers. They will not have to repay more than double the amount of principal together with interest and penal interest. In case they have already paid double the amount or pay it the balance will be written off. Similarly small and marginal farmers who had taken loans up to Rs 1000 from Government Departments would not be charged interest and penal interest if they repay the principal loans by December 31, 1981.

For the second year running the people of Himachal Pradesh, including 93 per cent villagers dependent directly and indirectly on farms, have not been subjected to fresh taxation. We have not only not imposed new taxes but have also seen to it that there is no deficit left uncovered. Last year our total receipts went up from original estimated Rs 232 crores to Rs 257 crores mainly through better collection from existing sources. This year we hope to even excell out last year's performance.

Sixth Plan size of Rs 560 crores, which is 134.4 per cent larger than the 5th Plan (1974-79) will accelerate the pace of development further and is a harbinger for better tomorrow for the people of the Pradesh.



CSO: 4220/7581

INDIA

OIL INDIA ANNOUNCES ASSAM OIL, GAS FIND

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 25 Apr 81 p 1

[Text] Gauhati, April 24.--Oil India has discovered oil and gas in an exploratory well drilled in the alluvial plains at Bogapani to the east of Duliajan in Upper Assam, reports UNI.

An Oil India spokesman said today that preliminary results were encouraging to warrant an accelerated exploration programme promising a new oil field in this and neighbouring areas.

Oil India's first well in the Bogapani area drilled in 1963-64 had established the presence of natural gas reserves. A detailed review of regional geological data of the eastern Upper Assam valley, however indicated the possibility of the presence of oil in sizable quantity in this area.

The recent discovery in the second well here has confirmed this and provided the necessary impetus for further exploration for oil in the vicinity, the spokesman said.

The spokesman said a detailed seismic survey using the most sophisticated digital field recording system available to the industry had already been started. The future drilling programme of the company had been modified to intensify exploration in the Bogapani area.

CSO: 4220/7647

COAL SUPPLY IMPROVEMENT DEPENDS ON RAILWAYS

Madras THE HINDU in English 26 Apr 81 p 6

[Text] The experience of the coal industry in 1980-81 gives rise to genuine fears that full advantage out of a higher level of production cannot be derived by consumers in different regions without a significant increase in movement by the railways. The output of Coal India and Singareni Collieries is estimated to be 114 million tonnes in 1980-81 against 104 million tonnes in 1979-80.

The increase in production was noticeable in all areas. Eastern Coal Fields raised its share to 22.72 million tonnes from 20.52 million tonnes, Central Coal Fields to 27.45 million tonnes from 24.15 million tonnes, Western Coal Fields to 28.74 million tonnes from 26.13 million tonnes and Singareni collieries to 10.01 million tonnes from 9.40 million tonnes. The output of Bharat Coaking Coal too was higher at 21.42 million tonnes against 20.08 million tonnes.

Higher Pit Head Stocks

The despatches of non-coaking coal, by rail and road could not however be increased to the extent of improvement in coal raisings. It has actually been indicated in the annual report of the Union Ministry of Energy for 1980-81 that railways handled only 72.85 million tonnes in the 11 months ended February 1981 including 6 million tonnes of raw coal to the washeries against 71.45 million tonnes in the corresponding period in 1979-80. The road transport operators had therefore to handle larger quantities and it is estimated that 25 million tonnes of raw coal were moved against 22.35 million tonnes in 1979-80.

The share of these operators has thus risen to 22.3 per cent in 1980-81 from 12.3 per cent in 1975-76. In view of the advantageous location of collieries in Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh the haulage by road was considered less costly. As a result of the inability to rise to the occasion and the prohibitive cost of movement of transport by road from coal fields in the eastern region to the deficit regions, stocks at pitheads at the end of 1980-81 rose to 18.5 million tonnes from 14.01 million tonnes in the same month last year.

No large success has attended the efforts to move coal by sea as shipments from Haldia increased by only 1.75 lakh tonnes to 5.34 lakh tonnes. Stocks held by Eastern Coal Fields are reckoned to have risen by 1.6 million tonnes, those of Central Coal Fields by 1.6 million tonnes and Western Coal Fields by 1.3 million

tonnes. Only in respect of Singareni Collieries there was no significant increase in stocks.

Crucial Role of Railways

The allocation of coal moved by the railways had to be changed for according higher priority to the needs of thermal stations. As a result, many industries were starved of their requirements and those located in the deficit areas particularly were hit badly. Even the railways got barely their requirements as their share of the quantities moved was only 10.01 million tonnes in 10 months ended April-January 1981 against 12.37 million tonnes in 1979-80.

The thermal stations, however received 34.20 million tonnes in the 10 months under reference against 31.59 million tonnes on a comparable basis. Even so many the State electricity boards have low stocks. With large thermal capacity being commissioned in the current year the demand may be over 40 million tonnes against 37.2 million tonnes in 1980-81. The steel plants got only 12.79 million tonnes of coking coal in April-February against 12.64 million tonnes. As it is expected that there will be only a marginal increase in supplies in a full year to 14 million tonnes from 13.83 million tonnes, additional quantities had to be secured by road.

Cement Units Hit

The cement units were hit seriously as even with a sizable addition to capacity, the railways could provide only 4.33 million tonnes in 10 months against the demand of 5.3 million tonnes. In the whole year, shortfall is presumed at one million tonnes over the demand of 5.75 million tonnes. This gap in supplies has affected cement plants, especially in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The difficulties may be felt more acutely in 1981-82 as an anomalous situation may arise with an improvement in power supply and shortage of coal.

Even though it is targeted that there should be an increase in coal production by 10 million tonnes to 124 million tonnes in the current financial year no useful purpose will be served unless there is an increase in railway coal traffic by 10 per cent. Without adequate measures to transport coal out of Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa, stocks at pit heads may rise to unmanageable levels. There will have to be careful monitoring of movement by the railways and it should be the objective to maximise movement of coal by these services. Handling by road operators should be discouraged, with a view to preventing in undue rise in consumption of costly diesel.

CSO: 4220/7652

PROGRESS IN BHILAI PLANT EXPANSION REPORTED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Apr 81 pp 1, 5

[Text] The first phase of the Bhilai Steel Plant expansion programme will be completed by the year end with the steel making capacity increasing by additional .5 million tonnes.

The civil construction works for the first phase are nearing completion and engineers have started installation of the machinery.

The plant is scheduled to be expanded to a total capacity of four million tonnes by the end of 1983 from its present capacity of 2.5 million tonnes.

Under the expansion programme, the production capacity will increase by the year end and by the end of 1982 production will be three million tonnes, according to Bhilai Steel Plant managing director E R C Sekhar.

Performance

The performance of the plant in March touched an all time high with the production of 200157 tonnes of steel.

In terms of volume of work, four million tonnes expansion is more than the total work executed at the one million tonne and 2.5 million tonne stages.

About a lakh tonnes of structures have been physically erected.

According to an official spokesman of the BSP, the expansion programme is being executed in specific phases. Firstly in the areas of new stream of LD converter steel making, continuous casting and slabs and blooms and the 3600 mm Plate Mill complex--one of the biggest in the world.

Secondly, efforts for the augmentation of the existing iron making facilities and the new coal preparation plant are being stepped up.

The major units of expansion are the oxygen blown LD Converter Shop, which would give an additional 1.5 million tonne of steel per year when the expansion work is over, the Continuous Casting Shop, which would cast molten steel directly into slabs and blooms without the need of an intermediary rolling mill and the huge

3,600 mm Plate Mill, which would roll plates ranging in thickness from five to 120 mm and would eventually meet most of national requirements for plates and build up potential for export.

The spokesman said that considering the present status of expansion, it is proposed to deploy all the available inputs and resources for intensifying construction activity in the Plate Mill complex with the object of commissioning the three mill plants.

A vertical stand, which has been imported from the Soviet Union, is a salient feature of the Plate Mill. The stand was brought from the Vishakhapatnam port to Bhilai on two special wagons constructed for its transportation.

The spokesman said that some auxiliary pre-requisites have also been taken care of. Even for the first stage commissioning of the Plate Mill vital auxiliary units like the 2nd power plant and all the utilities like the compressed air, liquid and solid fuels, steam--and services like cooling water, ventilation and air conditioning have to be commissioned. For all production units a commissioning minima has been worked out to ensure that their basic requirements for inputs are met.

As regards augmentation of the existing capacity for hot metal, production to meet the requirement of LD converter, production of lump ore and washed fines from the Dalli mechanised mines has already been established. The first machine of the second sintering plant has also been commissioned and the second machine is in the process of tests. The third machine will be commissioned in the middle of 1983 to synchronise with the commissioning of the blast furnace number 7.

The spokesman said that the HSCL has the responsibility for all the civil engineering works and structural fabrication and erection. Some of the specialised units are given out for execution on turnkey basis and in some cases the equipment erection has been entrusted to the suppliers themselves. The plant's own construction organisation is concentrating on the erection work only in very important and critical areas like the Plant Mill area one, including motor room, MSDS-2 and converter shop. Incomplete, untimely and unsequential supplies of equipment from indigenous sources continue to constitute a major restraint in this area.

Along with these projects in the four million tonnes expansion programme, Indo-Soviet collaboration at Bhilai has entered a new phase with modernisation and improvements in technology to enable the existing plant to annually produce one million tonne more of steel with very little capital investment.

The understanding and technology provided by Soviet experts has greatly helped engineers and technologists in Bhilai who have gained tremendous experience.

Relations between the Soviet and Indian experts have been marked by mutual respect, trust and common desire to work for strengthening of technology in India. The one million tonne plant required 80 per cent of equipment and structurals from the Soviet Union, while the current project will be 80 per cent indigenous. This in itself is a proof of self-sufficiency India has achieved in this vital industry.

CSO: 4220/7653

INDIA

BRIEFS

ANDHRA PRADESH BYELECTION--Hyderabad, April 23 (PTI): The Congress-I candidate, Mrs. Suguna Devi, was today declared elected unopposed to the legislative council in the by-election caused by the resignation of Mr. K. V. R. S. Bala Subba Rao who was elected to the Rajya Sabha recently. The nomination papers of the independent candidate, Mr. P. Raghavan, were rejected as he did not produce the extract of electoral rolls on the day of scrutiny. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Apr 81 p 9]

COMMUNAL HARMONY COMMITTEE--New Delhi, April 23 (PTI): Mr. Justice Mirza Hameedullah Beg, former chief justice of the supreme court and chairman, minorities commission, has been nominated a member of the committee on communal harmony of the National Integration Council, says an official release here today. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Apr 81 p 14]

INDO-SYRIAN CULTURAL PACT--New Delhi, April 23. A cultural exchange programme between India and Syria was signed by the Minister for Education and Social Welfare, Mr. S. B. Chavan, and the visiting Syrian Education Minister, Mr. Mohammed Najeeb Al Said Ahmad, here today. It envisages cooperation in the field of education, science, art, culture, mass media and youth covering a period up to the end of 1982.--UNI. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 24 Apr 81 p 1]

PACT WITH GUATEMALA--New Delhi, April 24.--India and Guatemala signed a trade agreement here yesterday, reports UNI. The agreement was signed by Mr Khurshed Alam Khan, Minister of State for Commerce on behalf of India and Mr Valentin Solorzano, Minister of Economy, on behalf of Guatemala. The two countries have also agreed to establish a joint committee to develop and promote economic and commercial relations. The committee shall meet alternately in the capitals of both countries periodically. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 15 Apr 81 p 9]

REPRESENTATIVE AT UNITED NATIONS--Natarajan Krishnan has taken over as India's new permanent representative at the United Nations. He presented his credentials to Secretary General Dr Waldheim on April 21. He replaces Brajesh Mishra. [Text] [BK231219 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1514 GMT 22 Apr 81 BK]

AID TO KAMPUCHEA--India has donated medicines and foodstuff worth 30 million rupees to Kampuchea. This was stated by the charge d'affaires of the Indian Embassy in Phnom Penh. India is also providing training to Kampuchean experts in the field of archeaology. [BK231219 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1'00 GMT 22 Apr 81 BK]

AMBASSADOR TO SAUDI ARABIA--April 21. Mr. T. T. P. Abdullah, Director-General of Police, Tamil Nadu, who has been appointed Indian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, will take up his new assignment in the last week of May. He will be relieved from his present office during the second week of May. He will take short leave before proceeding to Saudi Arabia. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 22 Apr 81 p 9]

ASSAM NEWSPAPER CENSORSHIP--Gauhati, April 22 (UNI): The Assam cabinet today virtually withdrew the pre-censorship on newspapers in the state imposed four months ago "to maintain public order during the foreigners issue agitation." Cabinet sources said the provisions of the Assam Special Powers (Press Act), 1960, which would lapse at midnight tonight, would not be extended till the Gauhati high court gave its verdict on a writ petition challenging the validity of pre-censorship. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 23 Apr 81 p 1]

INADEQUATE PAPER PRODUCTION--Domestic production of paper and paper board during 1980 was about 1.08 million tonnes as against an installed capacity of 1.53 million tonnes, reports UNI. According to official sources the capacity utilisation was affected adversely due to power shortage, bottlenecks in wagon movement and inadequate availability of coal. There was a gap of about 70,000 tonnes between demand and supply, which was met by imports. As on 1 January, 1981, the installed capacity for the production of paper and paper board was 1.65 million tonnes. With the expected improvement in the power and coal supplies, the capacity utilisation is also expected to reach a level adequate to meet the demand. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 15 Apr 81 p 5]

EASTERN COMMAND HEAD--Lieutenant General A. S. Vaidya has been appointed the new General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Eastern Command at Calcutta, succeeding Lieutenant General E. A. Vas, who will retire on May 31. Commissioned on January 20, 1945, in Armoured Corps, General Vaidya held various regimental appointments. He commanded an independent Armoured Brigade and an Armoured Division. He was also the Director of Military Operations in Army Headquarters. General Vaidya is also an honorary ADC to the President. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 22 Apr 81 p 9]

JAGUAR PRODUCTION PROGRAM--New Delhi, April 22. The Minister of State for Defence, Mr. Shivraj Patil, today informed the Lok Sabha that the production programme of Jaguar at HAL was behind the originally envisaged schedule. The British Aerospace had not so far made any request for purchase of engines from HAL. "We do not have information on the opinion of the Aerospace [as published] on the implementation of the Jaguar programme," Mr. Patil said.--PTI. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 23 Apr 81 p 7]

NAVAL DOCKYARD COMMANDER--April 22: Rear Admiral N. Bhalla has taken over as admiral superintendent of the naval dockyard. Admiral Bhalla joined the Royal Indian Navy as a cadet in 1945. He received his initial training in the U.K. and qualified for the Long Engineering course from /HMS Thunderer,/ [in italics] the Royal Naval Engineering College. Elevated to the flag rank in 1978, Admiral Bhalla has held many senior appointments. He was awarded the Ati Vishisht Seva medal by the President in 1971. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 23 Apr 81 p 4]

WESTERN COMMAND CHIEF--New Delhi, April 22 (PTI): Lt.-Gen. S. K. Sinha has been appointed general officer commanding-in-chief, western command, in place of Lt.-Gen. K. V. Krishna Rao, the chief of the army staff-designate. Lt.-Gen. Sinha is commanding a corps in the western sector and will assume his new post on June 1. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 23 Apr 81 p 9]

YOUTH IN ISLAM DISCUSSED

Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 11 Apr 81 pp 69-71

[Article: "At the Home of the 'Fundamentalists;"]

[Text] Hundreds of young people came to the mosque every day. The peace and order of that house of prayer was altered after the "hardliners" emerged. What did happen in the Istiqamah Mosque?

Indonesia's name became famous because of the highjacking of the Garuda plane at the end of March not only because of the success of its antiterrorist troops but also because Indonesia became a member of the group of nations having an "Islamic fundamentalist" movement.

How did this come about? According to a preliminary investigation, no mastermind controlled them. Apparently the many young people (numbering in the hundreds) became followers of a young imam, Imran bin Zen, 31 years old.

The story begins in a mosque in Bandung, the Istiqamah Mosque--translated as "Fundamentalist Mosque"--built less than 2 decades ago and located in one of the elite areas with modern houses, including the mosque which is built in the latter day modern style.

Hundreds of young people gathered here, a place where people liked to be and which could only be equalled by the Salman Mosque in the ITB [Bandung Technology Institute] complex.

Imran, born in Medan, came there from Jakarta for the first time in 1979. He was introduced by Azhar, the son of Col Purnawirawan Cut Usman of Cimahi. Imran lectured there only three times--and always around midnight, but apparently his followers were there much earlier. There were few new members in Istiqamah: only about 30 of the 600 members.

However, their militancy became apparent immediately, particularly after February's attack on the police headquarters in Cicendo, said to have been lead by Azhar, the son of a retired policeman in Cimahi. According to official information, the attack, in which three policemen were killed, was made in order to free a comrade who was imprisoned and also to obtain weapons.

A good deal earlier a mass fight broke out in a cemetery also in Cimahi--the result of a dispute on the correct burial procedure "according to Islam."

Later Dr Syamsuddin, a member of the Istiqamah Foundation and head of the education department there, was subject to knifing, but of first concern was the raid on the state apparatus on the mosque last August.

Forty-four young people who were attending a fiery lecture denouncing the ulama [Muslim scholars] and the government--were taken away. Although the manager of the mosque had been discharged by the Istiqamah Foundation, the lecture at that time was given in the framework of making cadre of the mosque's young people. The speaker was Machrizal from Jakarta, who later became known as the leader of the aircraft hijacking.

Clearly, both Machrizal--who is dead--as well as Imran did not belong to Istiqamah. The mosque community itself, which was a very active one--organizing programs from those for mothers to children's programs--told TEMPO they regreted that their mosque "had been ruined."

The atmosphere became less open, moreover, many persons did not want to be identified with it. Except during prayer time, strangers who came in would be watched from afar: perhaps it's a follower of Imran--or a state official.

However, it is interesting that Imran's arrival earlier had been awaited--although many were disappointed later. This happened possibly because the Istiqamah Mosque had no one to idolize like Eng Imaduddin of the ITB's Salman Mosque earlier. Bukhori, a member of the Senior Youth Council of the Al Manar Mosque did say that Imran, when he first arrived, was well received by the mosque young people in Bandung--just as he himself had received him. At that time Imran had not yet asked to be acknowledged as an imam [Muslim leader]. That meeting was attended by Eng Bambang Pranggono, involved in activities for the Istiqamah young people, Dr Syamsuddin of the mosque education department, and Salman and Istiqamah Mosque young people.

That meeting was held because the mosque door had been opened to anyone who reportedly was conducting indoctrination, and, at least for some, this was a possibility since the Istiqamah community was seeking not only someone to idolize but also an imam. And this was the imam or religious leader--not the mosque imam or prayer imam.

This may sound strange, but before Imran arrived, an Usrah was formed in the Istiqamah Mosque. (The word means family.) This is a type of "select" membership for the youth section and was then headed by Bambang Pranggono. A source who did not want to be identified said that in 1978 the Usroh submitted a request to Kiai Haji E.Z. Muttaqin, chairman of the West Jakarta Islamic Scholars Council and a member of the Istiqamah Foundation, Kiai Haji Rusyad Nurdin, also an old Istiqamah member, and another scholar, Kiai Haji Bustami Darwis--seeking their willingness to be religious imams. The request was rejected, of course.

Even Bambang, the leader, did not want to become an imam. He said his religious studies "were still superficial." But Bukhori also told of the strictness of Usrah

at that time. For instance, it was put forward that no one should watch TV or listen to the radio because this was a sin. It was also suggested--strongly--that girls cover themselves with a veil, and even school girls at the State Teachers School, located near the Istiqamah, were so reminded.

The results were good: the longer this movement continued, the more members it attracted, reaching into the hundreds. All were veiled, pleasing to the eye. It was too bad that a conflict arose between the students and the teacher over adhering to this matter of dress. A young girl at the State Senior High School III accused the teacher of being "an infidel" for forcing her to wear an "open" school uniform--and this matter was sent to E.Z. Muttaqin for settlement while State Teachers School pupils who covered themselves were placed in a class by themselves.

Miftah Faridl, a religious teacher at Istiqamah and Salman and also an ITB docent, told about having received a letter after the (early morning prayer) lecture. The letter inquired whether he had paid his zakat [religious tax]; whether his personal wealth was permissible; and why his wife did not cover up.

But these were not fundamental problems--compared, for instance, to the problem of selecting an imam. Imran was sworn in later as an imam, in 1980, by a part of the community. Some people thought Bambang Pranggono, a very devout contractor, had also been sworn in. Of course, Bambang had refused. "Why should I follow him?" he said. "I am not an intellectual."

He explained to TEMPO that Imran's way was in no way Islam, "putting forth the idea that nothing in religion can be questioned--whereas greater conviction is attained through questioning and, if necessary, through debate." Furthermore, killing, terrorism and so on, "that is not the Islamic way!"

Bambang also reminded TEMPO that Imran's followers earlier had beaten up a prostitute behind the State building. That also is not Islamic--Bambang said.

But the question is: why were they so zealous about finding an imam? Most Muslims are not.

The truth is that none of those who wanted the matter of the imam clarified (both the Islamic community and those in the Hisbullah Muslim Community or even the group that admired Abdullah Thufail in Surakarta earlier, perhaps) was subject to the authority of a true religious organization--such as Muhammadiyah, PERSIS [Islamic Union], NU [Nahdatul Ulama], or Irsyad.

And this, of course, indicates the type of large clique that had gathered together in the mosque at that time. They were not children who came from a traditional background--in Java they are known, for instance, as abangan [nominal Muslims]. Plus they were in a "coreless" organizational culture such as the PII (Indonesian Islamic Students), one of the biggest student mass organizations whose membership, during the Old Order period, were known as militants.

Apparently there is no problem with Muhammadiyah or PERSIS children; their imam is their leader. Here the functional imam meets the qualifications for a "religious

imam." The same is true for children in the advanced study Islamic training center under the NU tradition: Kiai Haji Biseri Sjamsur or other rois [limitors] are the imam, moreover sometimes "all descendants" are; they all were. Enough of them kissed the hand of Abdurrahman Wahid, for instance, the main descendant in NU--and a peaceful one.

There was another difference: naming an imam actually was not discussed in the more true groups in the thousands of discussions on the law based on Muslim theology [the book of fiqh]. From century to century the imam matter was a difficult one, was much debated, and when considered necessary was even set aside.

Some, for instance, considered that the imam in Islam was not a person but rather an institution. Hamka, for instance, believed this as did E.A. Mutaqin. Some even believed the imam could be equated with the government. The emergence of the phrase, waliyyul amnidl diaruuriy biy-syaukah, "one who has full authority over matters," in the earlier Sukarno period showed that this was possible--although these individuals had the wrong idea, one not gained from an understanding of religion but rather because they looked up to the person, that is Sukarno, who was an "abangan."

Conversely, the youth group, which was "fatherless," was the product of a new environment: the result of lightning indoctrination (moreover, going from here to there like "lightning Islamic religious training") which, of course, cannot be expected to provide any indepth or complex knowledge of Islam. What these young people got was the basic framework for Islam: limits were made clear, being members of the religious community was made clear (which was understood actually as to be "one"), the matter of the imam was also made clear.

Also PII, for instance, did not teach religion. The members were like children who stubbornly "defended" Islam but did this frequently because they did not understand religion as a basic line. It is understandable that they rapidly felt that "something was 'lacking' in following Islam." That is, the imam.

Consequently, they were relatively more easily aroused by provocation. To this temperament can be added their perception of the teachings which differed from the perception of the Muhammadiyah or NU children.

In Muhammadiyah, a child mainly was bound, let's say, to follow pure teachings--from disregarding all superstitions and heresies. In NU a youngster was given training primarily on how to manage his peity by himself for his own salvation in this transitory world and in eternity. While the free group was mainly given an impression of the Islamic position in the world and in Indonesia at the present time.

This may have fostered a more dynamic outlook. Or a hard one. Or a creative one as has often been proved. But this outlook did not always match the requirements or possibilities.

Therefore, it was not only Latang M. Natsir, former PII activist and now secretary general of the Indonesian Mosque Youth Communication Board (BPKMI), who recommended that efforts be made to change perceptions also known as "indoctrination."

The PII group, for instance, earlier stressed a four-point program: belief also known as faith, community also known as united followers, the role of the imam also known as leadership, and measures to be taken also known as struggle line. Properly these should be changed--and the change that was carried out by BKPMI was: belief which is close to propaganda, habit, intellectual growth, and attainment of skills.

The mosque youth then, of course, were expected to be more peaceful, possibly even given new hope. Attempts were made to replace "hot" problems such as the questions of the imam or united followers with the development of personal qualities.

BKPMI is a new organization. It was formed only in 1977 at the Istiqamah Mosque in Bandung by leaders such as Toto Tasmara, who at that time was its general chairman and, let us not forget, Bambang Pranggono, who became the secretary general, and Anwar, who now is the general chairman.

It is evident that in its brief historical journey there has been internal discord. For instance, the young people in the Al Azhar Mosque in Jakarta under Jimly Ash Shiddieqy, were not ready to become associated in the earlier period with what, in their view perhaps, was "politics."

Of course, it's not odd that young people "do not like politics." Anwar, for instance, who became general chairman for the 1401-1404 Hijri period (1980-1983) said matters which were believed to be examples of religious perception actually were enthusiastic, practical politics--earlier. For instance BKPMI issued a statement on Afghanistan. Moreover, on mysticism in 1978.

"This is why, among other things, the BKPMI was accused of being political," said an IAIN [State Islamic Religion Institute] propaganda scholar in Jakarta. Although "this does not mean that political study is forbidden for us."

Conversely, a statement, considered to be proper, was circulated by a group of mosque youths was found to be similar, for instance, to those printed in BKPMI circulars some time ago--their members were ordered to avoid the Imran group and their kind.

It cannot yet be predicted whether this vehicle will be effective. They are optimistic: with a total membership of more than 2,000 mosque youth organizations, for instance, cadre courses on cooperation and private heroism are in the immediate future for them. As Tatang, the secretary general, has said, what must be stressed for mosque youth is not "an Islamic framework" but rather "Islamic values that must be applied and realized in everything."

Thank God that this is not too high sounding. They apparently realize, as Tatang said further, "it actually does not matter if there is no provocation." Yet they also understand the need to prepare the fish who no longer are easily caught.

GARUDA PLANE HIJACKERS DESCRIBED

Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 11 Apr 81 pp 12, 13

[Article: "Wendy, Abu, Icah and Ju"]

[Text] An unaddressed telegram sent on the afternoon of 31 March came to the family of Mohamad Zein in Kampung Kotamatsum, Medan. It read: "Wendy is dead." Weeping and mourning immediately filled that family's house.

However, the next day the mourning atmosphere changed. The door of the Zein family's house, a family known to be devout, remained closed. People knew only that Wendy, age 28, loving fourth son of the Zein family studious and helpful to his parents in selling fabrics at the central market in Medan, apparently was shot to death by Indonesian commandos at the Don Muang Airport, Bangkok, in the hijacking of the Garuda aircraft.

Wendy graduated from the Muhammadiyah elementary school, studied at the State Junior High School X in Medan, but did not graduate. He then studied at the Al Ulum school on Amaliun Street in Medan, where he had some religious training. Those who knew him said that Wendy was well behaved until his older brother, Imronsyah, returned from Saudi Arabia.

Imronsyah--who usually was called "Amron"--reemerged in the robes of a haj after having disappeared for years. He admitted that he had studied religion in Saudi Arabia between 1971 and 1976. His behaviour was completely different from his past bad behaviour. He now wanted to travel around and preach. He prayed regularly. In the past Imronsyah was known as Imran and was called Imam Imran by his group (TEMPO, 4 April 1981). Reportedly it was Imran who persuaded his brother Wendy to go to Jakarta in 1977.

Abu Sofyan was another hijacker who came from Medan. His real name was Sofyan Effendi and he was born in 1942. Like Wendy, he also came from Kotamatsum II which is the widest kampung in Medan. His highest education was the third grade of the Kenanga Senior High School. Sofyan was known to be stubborn, to smoke marihuana, to rarely mix with neighbors, and to have studied karate.

According to his only brother Zaiwar, Sofyan, whose wife then was pregnant, ran off to Jakarta in 1965, taking with him 250 grams of gold that belonged to his brother.

"I never met with him again from that time and furthermore I did not know his address in Jakarta," said Zaiwar. During the 1980 Lebaran period, Sofyan came to Medan for 4 days but did not stop by at his brother's home. He just told his nephew Edy, Zaiwar's son, that at a later date he would repay the gold which he had taken with him earlier. Also, according to Edy, Sofyan had married a French girl in Jakarta.

Since the hijacking, the home of Sofyan's brother was often visited by security officials and reporters. "However I am not convinced that the Sofyan who was the hijacker was my brother," Zaiwar remarked.

Another leading hijacker is Zulfikar, who also grew up in Medan. The full name of the Aceh youth, who was born in Medan in 1953, is T. Djohan Meraxa. Zulfikar, also called Ju, is a karate artist with a blue belt from the Tako (Empty Hands) Karate School.

According to his teacher, Zulfakad Nizam, Ju, who spoke English fluently, was a gentle person, sociable, but changeable. After entering the karate school in 1971, Ju stopped drinking. He was pursued by the authorities because he was involved in carrying marihuana from Banda Aceh to Medan, but he was not arrested. Ju moved to Jakarta in 1973.

He rented a house in the Matraman Salemba area and was known there as a normal youth. He was always neatly dressed and he liked to play the guitar and sing. "Islam meant nothing to him. If he was talking with someone and the drum announced the sunset prayer, he continued talking," recounted someone who knew him. For more than 2 years Zulfikar worked in security at the Hotel Hilton, Jakarta. He was discharged on 20 March 1981--8 days before the hijacking--because he had been absent from work for more than 10 days.

About 2 years ago Zulfikar married a neighbor and his attitude changed from that time on. He then resided with his parents in law. "Moreover, his attitude changed after he became friendly with Icah. He followed everything that Icah said and was polite no longer," recounted Zulfikar's brother. Icah is Machrizal, a leader who later was known as Woyla, leader of the Garuda plane hijackers.

Machrizal had lived in Saudi Arabia with his family and earlier in Matraman Salemba at his family's home, not far from Zulfikar's home.

Another strange thing about Zulfikar. After he married, among other things, if it rained, he would receive the rain in his hands as if giving thanks. One of his neighbors warned him about this. Ju answered, "This is the mercy of God and we must thank God." Another tale from his neighbor: Zulfikar was observed bathing in the nude in the rain in the yard of his home. He was also seen with a black mark on his forehead which is rumored to be the sign of the Imran group.

Young people in the Matraman Salemba area also knew Imran. Several months ago a youth, age 31, was surprised when he stopped at a local youth religious study program where the participants were reading the Epistle of Yasin. Imran said what they were doing was wrong. According to him, Islam prohibited the reading of the

Koran out loud together. If this was done, no one could confirm that it was being read incorrectly. If the reading was done by one person and another person heard him and corrected him, the merit was the same.

At that time Imran also challenged the young people for the way they greeted one another using the word, lord. He asked who was brave enough to be responsible for this sin and entering hell because of mistakes made in religious study at that time? Apparently none was brave enough to accept Imran's challenge.

"Then what happens to those who heretofore read the Yassin Epistle together out loud? Have they committed a sin?" a youth asked. Imran answered at that 'me," They did not commit a sin because they did not know about this, but if they do know and continue the practice, this is a sin for them."

Giving alms was also touched on by Imran. According to him, it is a sin and is forbidden under Islamic law to eat special food served at celebrations after religious study. Why should food be served to persons at celebrations? Why is it not given only to the poor? If the aim is to eat, according to Imran, that is no problem although celebrating after finishing religious study is forbidden by Islam. Those who live in the house, where the celebration is taking place are also responsible for the sin.

According to the tales of a number of Matraman Salemba youths last week, those who heard Imran on these questions all nodded, unnerved. And they remained silent.

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CSO: 8127/0985

INDONESIA

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON INDONESIAN PERSONALITIES

GDE DERMAWAN--Born when the Japanese were about to enter Indonesia, young Dermawan dreamed of becoming a doctor. The war for independence split the family apart--his father was off to the battlefield, while he and his younger brothers and sisters went with his mother to the countryside. But throughout it all he never lost his zest for life. Because of the war, too, he wasn't able to enter elementary school until he was 9 years old.

Dermawan was smart. He was first in his class at the elementary school, first at the junior high school, and even first when he completed his studies at the senior high school for "health care."

Just as he finished junior high school, a senior high school for "health care" was opened in Bali, thought by many to be a preparatory school for the study of medicine. So he enrolled in the school with the intention of fulfilling his ambition to become a doctor.

As it turned out, he entered the wrong school. The school for "health care" did not prepare students for medical school, but trained hygienic engineer candidates, who in other countries are called sanitary engineers.

Gde Dermawan is a positive thinker; he sees and feels everything from a positive aspect. It was on this basis that he would later understand his training at the "health care" school was not in vain. He remained there and eventually graduated--in first place.

Because of his positive approach to life and thanks to an instinct for private enterprise inherited through his Balinese roots, Dermawan would gradually begin to enlarge his "empire."

After he graduated from school, the youth, who was born on 14 July 1940, then started to work as a civil servant in the Health Department of Bali Province, beginning in 1961. There he showed how intelligent he really was, so that often he looked after the affairs of the department head, at that time Dr Djelantik, even though his own position at that time was quite low. But Dermawan realized that being employed as a civil servant obviously did not afford him the chance to put his business sense to work, and so he quit his job in 1967. That was the first step. In 10 years his "empire" would be established with his appearance as an international businessman.

When he was still a civil servant in 1964, Dermawan tried to develop his instinct for business by establishing a silkworm enterprise. But in this he lasted only till 1967. The government decided to import silk.

The failure of the silkworm business did not cause Dermawan to despair, however. But he did not see any bright road ahead in silkworms, either. He knew he had to find some other field that corresponded with his education. At that time his father, Gde Widja, had a small transport business that was already quite well known.

With two trucks as capital, a gift from his father that Dermawan later was to think of as "shares of stock," he became involved in the pharmaceutical field by building his first pharmacy in 1967. This really was the beginning of his work on his own. With a little of his own capital and some connections he had established when he was with the Health Department he would begin.

Certainly Gde Dermawan is no seasonal entrepreneur nor a mere opportunist. From his youth, even from his childhood, he was already a disciplined, enterprising individual.

Dermawan demonstrated his natural talents while he was still in school, especially in the junior high school at Klungkung. He helped run his father's transport business, sold firewood, and even had the time to become an agent for several newspapers and magazines--all while attending school. Even as a teenager he had a number of friends his age working for him delivering papers.

Whatever Dermawan did was quite satisfactory, indeed remarkable when compared to most Indonesians. His first pharmacy, Dirgayusa, prospered. Later, in 1969, he established a contracting business called Kresna Karya. Unfortunately, not long after, he suffered a loss on a Kresna Karya venture and was forced to sell the Dirgayusa pharmacy.

Once more his positive outlook on life did not permit a tempering of his urge to attempt something, and it was in that light that he would always remember the words of the Bhagavad Gita concerning enterprise. The passage goes: "Only in taking action do you have a right, not in determining the result. Do not let the consequences of your labors become an excuse for despair, and do not grant yourself the possibility of not striving."

Once again Dermawan gathered funds together from his family, mortgaging their land, borrowing or selling their jewelry, including his grandfather's gold-hafted kris. He did not ask that these things be free of charge. All were noted down as "shares of stock." At that time he swore he would never wear jewelry of gold or precious stones before he reached his goal in life.

A "Family" Business

Today Dermawan owns six pharmacies in Bali, Lombok and Jakarta, has large pharmaceutical businesses in Jakarta, Bali and the West Lesser Sundas, runs the PT Kresna Karya contracting business, whose branches are spread throughout Java, the Lesser Sundas, Lampung and Sulawesi, owns the Parta Karya transport business, two restaurants and a hotel of international quality. He bought the hotel, the Bali

Oberoi, in '77 at a lower court auction exactly 10 years after he went into business for himself. At that time no one wanted to buy a hotel in Bali, because after PATA [Pacific Area Travel Association] met in Jakarta, the hotel business went into a slump. He paid only \$800,000 at the sale. The hotel, which consists of 80 cottages on 13 hectares of land at Kuta Beach, is currently valued at \$6 million.

Even though he holds the world in his hands, Dermawan is not satisfied. His determination has the smell of a vow that remains unfulfilled. Till now not a piece of gold or gemstone decorates his fingers, wrist or neck.

It's not just an oath that guides him. "Our leaders in Bali tend to have very simple life-styles, and as an exclusive group within the community, we businessmen do not dare surpass them," Dermawan said. He thinks the present Governor of Bali, Prof Ida Bagus Mantra, and even the last governor, Sukarmen, have been quite unpretentious. Their homes are small. In fact, they could probably become rich men if they wanted to.

"Our governor doesn't drive a Mercedes, so who am I to ride in one?" he asked. He feels that no Balinese businessman dares own an expensive prestige car as long as the governor still rides in a jeep.

Dermawan has another prescription for success. He doesn't consider his employees to be on a different plane than himself, but rather as part of his own family. Indeed, so that they too might taste the fruits of development, he freely takes in anyone from his own village who wishes to work for him. Most of them work at his construction firm, PT Kresna Karya, receiving a fair wage.

All the homes in the village of his birth, Pesaban, in the Karang Asem regency, are made out of stone and have tiled roofs. They were given, indirectly, by Dermawan to the citizens of his village.

The principle of simplicity--always accommodating oneself to circumstances--is followed by Dermawan's family also. Met by KOMPAS when the pious family was leaving for worship at the village temple, his wife was wearing the simplest of clothing. She had on an inexpensive black cotton dress and ordinary sandals. A pair of small, round earrings adorned her ears--just to have some. And this is the family that pays 2 million rupiahs in taxes each year!

His Wife: One of the Regular Employees

Dermawan's wife does all her own cooking, even though in the morning she is a regular employee at one of her husband's pharmacies. And Aya, their only son, doesn't get any special treatment. Just in first grade at elementary school, the heir to the Dermawan empire must care for himself every day, including washing his own dishes and mopping the floor of his small room.

The principle of simplicity, which people often don't realize is a requirement for success in business, reminds Dermawan of the Japanese character. Even though they, as world leaders, may have a right to exercise a determinative influence over international affairs, the Japanese are a people who cultivate interpersonal relations in groups where no one individual predominates.

"I often go abroad to take care of business in Singapore or to tour in Europe, but I go to Japan for inspiration," said Dermawan, who this year will be 41

years old. He believes there are a number of similarities between the Balinese and the Japanese. His theory is that the Balinese are really those Javanese who became refugees of the Majapahit Empire, fleeing to Bali, and who till now have never been overrun by the onslaught of diverse cultures, including the Dutch colonial power.

The meru, a small multi-roofed tower used as a place of worship in the temple area, is found in both Japan and Bali. Both Japanese and Balinese prefer group associations, working together in situations where individual personalities tend to be inhibited. Both are closemouthed with outsiders. The women of both these cultures work hard. Not mere "rosettes decorating men's scabbards," they are the guarantors of the progeny, who give of themselves constantly. Both cultures also have faith in their guardian ancestors. Finally, in both is found the zeal of bushido (Japan) or puputan (Bali). Such fervor was characteristic of the kamikaze in Japan and of the Ngurah Rai regiment in Bali, fallen in the war for independence.

The figure that Dermawan cuts does not go unnoticed by the pretentious of Jakarta. He is so unaffected that even his car--not a Mercedes or Toyota Crown or BMW--is only an old Australian model.

But what have Jakarta residents done, to think that they have "made it?" Not much, compared to Dermawan, who built his empire from nothing in 13 years.

Main Office Still in Bali

Today Dermawan employs 1,500 full-time workers and several foreigners. The lowest salary for new employees is 700 rupiahs per day or around 20,000 rupiahs per month. The highest salary for Indonesians is 800,000 rupiahs per month plus housing and car. Dermawan employs 18 college graduates.

Each year he pays the government not less than 200 million rupiahs in sales and corporate taxes. In addition, he pays a development tax (PBI) [Development Tax I] through his hotel, the Bali Oberoi, of between 5 and 10 million rupiahs a month or about 100 million a year.

On the basis of what he has Dermawan probably should feel that he could turn the world upside down. But he isn't satisfied yet. This week he is leaving for the United States on a month-long trip to inspect the construction of his pharmaceutical company, Hope Laboratory, probably not the final link in his chain of independent business ventures. He also still plans to conduct his affairs from Bali and not move to Jakarta as most businessmen do. "In that way the outer provinces will progress at the same rate as the capital," said the man who also is head of the Bali Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

For Gde Dermawan such progress can be reached only by casting out feelings of maliciousness and jealousy. That is what he believes. [Text] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 15 Feb 81 pp 1, 12]

MOEDJONO: ALI SAID--President Soeharto plans to administer the oath of office Wednesday at the State Palace to Moedjono, SH, as the new chief justice of the Supreme Court, Purwoto Suhadi Gandasubrata, SH, as deputy chief justice, Ali Said, SH, as minister of justice and Ismail Saleh, SH, as attorney general.

Moedjono has been appointed on the basis of Presidential Executive Order No 30, 1981, replacing Prof Oemar Seno Adji, SH, and Purwoto Suhadi Gandasubrata will replace Dr R. Santoso Poedjosoebroto, SH, on the basis of the same order. The two men who have been replaced have been honorably discharged from their offices. Both have reached retirement age.

Furthermore, Ali Said will replace Moedjono on the basis of Presidential Executive Order No 31, 1981, and Ismail Saleh will replace Ali Said as attorney general on the basis of Presidential Executive Order No 32, 1981.

At the State Palace Wednesday the president will also administer the oath of office to 14 new associate justices of the Supreme Court at one time in the presence of the chief justice. The 14 new associate justices have been appointed on the basis of Presidential Executive Order No 28, 1981 and upon the recommendation of parliament.

The Correct Move

At the government offices Saturday State Secretary Sudharmono was not prepared to comment on what is behind these new replacements and transfers of office. "It's up to you to interpret what it means, whether it's a reshuffle, transfusion or whatever. That's your right, of course," he said in response to a reporter's question.

In the meantime another minister, who was not prepared to have his name mentioned, said that it was the "right move." If integrity and order are to be established within the agencies of the law, he said, then the choice of these three men is very appropriate. "As far as I know, all three are honest, courageous men," this source said. "That's the reason they are a trio who can work together in these matters."

Maj Gen Moedjono was born in the Bangsalari subdistrict, 17 km west of Jember (East Java), on 30 July 1927. He is a diligent, exacting, upright individual. The son of a Bangsalari stationmaster, Moedjono dreamed of becoming a farmer. To that end he entered the junior high school for agriculture. But apparently he was destined for another course. He ended up being a soldier.

He began his military career with the rank of Navy corporal in Jember, 1945. Later he was accepted at the Military Academy, Generation II, in Yogyakarta. He is a graduate of the Military Law Academy/Military Law College. In 1964 he became head of the military court of Military Region Command II/Bukit Barisan in Medan.

In February, 1965 he became a leader of SOKSI [Federation of Indonesian Socialist Workers Organizations] and in July, 1971 he became a member of the Central Executive Council of GOLKAR [Functional Groups] after SOKSI merged into the GOLKAR federation. In addition, he was once the secretary general of the Department of Industry and also of the Department of Plantations, a member of parliament after the elections in 1971, and since 5 January 1974 the secretary general of parliament.

When Moedjono was appointed minister of justice in March, 1978, he said, "When I became a corporal in 1945, I never tried to perform the duties of a sergeant or pretend that I was a sergeant. And when I became a sergeant, I wanted to become the best one I possibly could be, without thinking of the possibility of becoming sergeant major."

Ali Said was born in Magelang, Central Java, on 12 June 1927. Perhaps the most vocal official, Ali Said is tenacious when he speaks, but full of humor too. Sometimes it's difficult to determine when he is serious and when he is not. Ali attended the Military Law Academy/Military Law College. Among other positions he has held, he was once judge advocate of the military court during Permesta [Overall Struggle; 1958 regional rebellions in Sumatra and Sulawesi], head of the special military court set up to try the case of Indonesian Communist Party member Nyono and Dr Subandrio, and secretary of the Anti-Corruption Team. [Excerpts] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 15 Feb 81 pp 1, 12]

LAMBERTUS NICODEMUS PALAR--Jakarta, ANTARA--The remains of Indonesia's first ambassador to the United Nations, Lambertus Nicodemus Palar, were buried Monday in the Tanah Kusir public cemetery in Jakarta. Prof Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, minister of Foreign Affairs, acted as ceremonial inspector. Those attending the military rite included the minister of Trade and Cooperatives, the secretary general of the Information Department, the Dutch ambassador and other members of the diplomatic corps. The wife and three children of the deceased remained by the grave till the coffin was lowered into the ground. During his remarks, the Foreign Affairs minister expressed his deep feelings of sympathy on behalf of the government and people of Indonesia upon the death of the former ambassador who had served his country for more than a quarter century. "Not just our people in the Department of Foreign Affairs, but all Indonesians feel the loss of this friend. Lambertus Nicodemus Palar rendered a great service in the struggle for independence and in the growth and development of our nation," Mochtar said. During the last rites, Herman Nicolas Sumual spoke on behalf of the deceased's family and expressed his appreciation in the fact that the deceased had been given a state or military funeral. He also asked that the people of Indonesia and the diplomatic corps pardon all of L. N. Palar's offenses that he had committed during his life. Lambertus Nicodemus Palar died of old age at Gatot Subroto Hospital in Jakarta on Friday, 13 February at 0249 West Indonesia Time. He was 80 years old. Palar was born in Tomohon in the Minahasa regency, North Sulawesi, on 5 June 1900. During the revolution the deceased had been a member of the Tweede Kamer in Holland (1928). From 1947 to 1950 he was Indonesia's spokesman in the UN Security Council, from 1960 to 1963 was the Indonesian ambassador to the United Nations, and in 1968 became the ambassador to the United States. He also had been ambassador to the Soviet Union, Canada and India during his life. L. N. Palar retired in 1970, although he continued to act as adviser to the Indonesian mission at the United Nations. [Text] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 18 Feb 81 p 5]

BRIG GEN DRS MOERDIONO--Brig Gen Drs Moerdiono, 45, was installed as the new secretary of the cabinet Friday at the Cabinet Secretariat building, replacing Ismail Saleh, SH, who has been appointed attorney general. Soedharmono, SH, state secretary, administered the oath of office at the installation. The appointment of a new officer for the position of cabinet secretary is based on Presidential Executive Order No 33/M/1981, dated 9 February 1981. In his remarks during the ceremony Soedharmono said that Moerdiono will continue to hold the position of special assistant to the state secretary. "Drs Moerdiono is no stranger to us," Soedharmono said. "Knowing his ability, keen perception, past work experience and teamwork during the New Order period and even before, I am certain he will be able to carry out his new responsibilities well, as well as the cabinet secretary he replaces." Moerdiono is known to the press as one who worked in the offices of the state secretariat at the beginning of the New Order when he was still a captain. He then became Soedharmono's assistant. At that time Soedharmono had the rank of colonel in the Military Justice Corps and was the first cabinet secretary

of the New Order. The installation ceremony yesterday was attended by Ismail Saleh, attorney general, Sustanil Arifin, deputy minister for cooperatives and head of the Logistics Bureau, Joop Ave, director general of protocol for the Department of Foreign Affairs, and a number of other officials. [Text] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 28 Feb 81 p 1]

DRS H. GALIB LASAHIDO--Jakarta, Wednesday--President Soeharto has appointed Drs H. Galib Lasahido as governor KDH Tingkat I [Chief of Region, Level I] of Central Sulawesi. The appointment is based on Presidential Executive Order No 38/M/1981, dated 16 February. Lasahido has been regional secretary in the Level I area up till now. Drs H. Feisal Tamin, spokesman for the Department of Internal Affairs, in his statement to the press yesterday said that the installation ceremony is to take place Thursday in a special plenary session of the DPRD [regional legislature] of Central Sulawesi in Palu, with the minister of Internal Affairs, Amir Machmud, officiating on behalf of the president. It is generally known that Drs Galib Lasahido obtained 29 votes on 5 February at the plenary session of DPRD in Central Sulawesi led by its head, R. Soejono. The other candidates, Ir Jahya Ponulele and Drs Yusuf Rungka, obtained 7 and 3 votes respectively. Drs Galib Lasahido, currently regional secretary in the Level I area, Central Sulawesi, was born in Poso on 3 January 1926. He is an alumnus of the School of Sociopolitical Affairs at Gajah Mada University, where he majored in public administration. He once attended a seminar on public administration and national development in West Germany. In 1958 he began his work in the civil service as a member of the staff at the office of the governor of South Sulawesi in Ujungpandang. In 1961 he became Poso's district chief. In 1973 he was appointed regent (KDH Level II) of Poso. After that, he was appointed regional secretary. [Text] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 18 Feb 81 pp 1, 7]

IR SUHARTOYO--Jakarta, Thursday--Ir Suhartoyo, director general of the Basic Metals Industry of the Department of Industry, is to be installed next week as head of the Capital Investment Coordinating Board, replacing Ismail Saleh, SH, who is now occupying the post of attorney general. ILD [Basic Metals Industry] sources told reporters yesterday that Ir Eman Jogasara will replace Suhartoyo as director general of ILD. Jogasara currently is director of ILD's Program Preparations. Ir Suhartoyo was born in Yogyakarta on 2 September 1926. He is a Roman Catholic. He was married on 3 January 1954 to Umi Sudyati in Yogyakarta. The couple have six children. Their second child, Yuanita Seminarti, has given Suhartoyo a grandchild. Suhartoyo graduated from technical school in 1947, technical high school in 1950, and the Technical College at Gadjah Mada University in 1955. In 1954-1955 Suhartoyo worked as an assistant at the Technical College. From 1956 to 1958 he was director of PT Madu Baru Yogyakarta (state-owned) and built the Madukismo Sugar Factory. From 1958 to 1961 he was a member of the Management Board of Bappit Pusat N. Melonvliet, Jakarta. [sic] In 1965-1966 he was the chief director of the General Management Board of the Machine Industry (electrical, transport and electronics equipment) in DEPERDAS [expansion unknown]. In 1966-67 he was the commander of the Military Police II Operations Command, Melatronika. From 1967 to 1975 he was the director general of Basic Industries. From 1975 to 1979 he was director general of the Metals and Machine Industry, and from 1979 to the present the director general of the Basic Metals Industry. Suhartoyo had once been a member of the Student Army in Yogyakarta (1946-1947), a member of Company IV, 1st Battalion GP [Youth Movement], 17th Brigade. His community activities have included manager of the Indonesian Puppeteer Association

(Pepadi), head of the Student Council of Gajah Mada University (1952-1953) and from 1961 till now a member of the board, Jakarta branch, of the Indonesian Engineers Association. His decorations include the Development Merit Award and the Exalted Son Star, 3rd Class. [Text] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 19 Feb 81 pp 1, 8]

FAUZI ABDUL RANI--Jakarta, Thursday--The government of Pakistan has given its approval to the appointment of Fauzi A. Rani as Indonesian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Pakistan. The new ambassador replaces Supriardjo Gondoprijono, whose tour of duty has been completed. Born in Mentawah, West Kalimantan on 24 January 1926, Abdul Rani has had formal training, among other places, in the foreign service, the Asian Foreign Service Course in Seoul, and the Main Diplomatic Course, 3rd Generation. His experience abroad has included the following: 3rd secretary at the Indonesian Embassy in Cairo, attache at the Indonesian Embassy in Cairo, 2nd secretary at the Indonesian Embassy in Brussels, later becoming 1st secretary, and before his appointment as ambassador to Pakistan, he held the post of minister DCN [expansion unknown] in Kuala Lumpur. [Text] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 26 Feb 81 p 1]

ABDUL AZIZ BUSTAM--Jakarta, Friday--The government of Papua New Guinea has given its approval to the appointment of Abdul Aziz Bustam as Indonesian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Papua New Guinea. The Information Directorate of the Indonesian Department of Foreign Affairs said yesterday that the new ambassador, Abdul Aziz Bustam, is replacing Busiri Suryowinoto, who was appointed recently as governor of Irian Jaya. Born 6 June 1926, Abdul Aziz Bustam had training, among other places, at PPL I [expansion unknown]; KUPALDA I [expansion unknown]; the Army Staff and Command School; U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth; and U.S. defense management training. Noteworthy work experiences of the new ambassador include the following: instructor PTI [expansion unknown], Bandung; instructor PUSDIKIF [expansion unknown], Bandung; PABAN IV [expansion unknown] Army General Staff II; chief of staff Military Region XIV/ Hasanuddin; commanding general Kobangdiklat [expansion unknown], Bandung; chief assistant of the Army chief of staff; chief assistant, Department of Defense and Security; Indonesian representative at the Indonesian-Malaysian boundary negotiations. He has received 14 decorations and merit awards. [Text] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 27 Feb 81 pp 1, 2]

DR J. B. SUMARLIN--Dr J. B. Sumarlin, minister for State Administrative Reforms, will be installed on 27 February as professor of the School of Economics at the University of Indonesia in Jakarta. Born 49 years ago in Blitar, East Java, Sumarlin also holds the position of vice chairman of the National Development Planning Board (Bappenas). The title of his address at the installation is to be "The Development of Third World Nations in International Economic Interdependence." Sumarlin graduated from the School of Economics at the University of Indonesia in 1958. In 1960 he earned a master's degree from the University of California, Berkeley, and later a PhD in economics from the University of Pittsburgh. Sumarlin was first appointed minister for State Administrative Reforms on 28 March 1973 and was reappointed in March, 1978. [Text] [Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 20 Feb 81 p 1]

ABDURRAHMAN WAHID -Born in Jombang, East Java in 1940, was an instructor at the Ciganjur religious training center in South Jakarta. Studied at a number of

different religious training centers, then at Al-Azhar in Cairo and the University of Baghdad in Iraq. Has written a great deal in many media forms about religious and social matters. Has been active in a number of different scholarly conferences.

ADI SASONO--Born in Pekalongan, is director of the Development Studies Institute (LSP) in Jakarta. Majored in civil engineering at ITB [Bandung Technological Institute] (1961-1968) and at Las Centrum, Utrecht (1974). Was once head of KAMI [Indonesian Students Action Front] at ITB (1965-19-6), head of the Student Council at ITB (1967), and secretary general of the Indonesian Students Press Association (IPMI) in 1968-1969. Other offices include member of the National Development Working Group in the National Security and Defense Council, member of the Agribusiness Development Center, and head of the Indonesian Welding Industry Association.

DORODJATUN KUNTJORO-JAKTI--Born in Rangkasbitung on 25 November 1939, is a teacher and research associate at the Institute for Social and Economic Research (LPEM) of the School of Economics at the University of Indonesia and a member of the Leadership Council of LP3ES [expansion unknown] in Jakarta. Graduated with the sarjana ekonomi degree from the School of Economics at the University of Indonesia in 1964, then continued his studies in the United States, obtaining an MA in public administration (1966) and a PhD in political science, specializing in political economy, from the University of California, Berkeley (1980). Has been involved in a number of research activities, seminars, discussions and has written many scholarly essays.

ONODHAM--Born in Surabaya in 1933, is a teacher at the Faculty of Arts, University of Indonesia, and special assistant at the National Social and Economics Institute/Indonesian Science Institute (LEKNAS-LIPI). Graduated from the Faculty of Arts, University of Indonesia, then continued his studies, obtaining a PhD in history from Yale University in 1975. Has written several published articles, including "Pulung Affair" in "Majalah Ilmu-Ilmu Sastra Indonesia," January, 1977 and "The Brotoduningrat Affair" in "Southeast Asian Transition," Ruth McVey, editor, published as a memorial volume for the late Prof H. J. Benda.

TAUFIK ABDULLAH--Born in 1936 in Bukittinggi, is a member of the staff of senior researchers at the National Social and Economics Institute/Indonesian Science Institute (LEKNAS-LIPI) in Jakarta. Obtained the sarjana degree from the Faculty of Arts at Gadjah Mada University (1962) and then the MA and PhD degrees (1970) from Cornell University, specializing in Southeast Asian history. Has written much, including: "Adat and Islam: An Examination of Conflict in Minangkabau" in "Indonesia" (Cornell Modern Indonesia Project, Ithaca, New York, 1966); "Some Notes on the Kaba Tjinduo Mato," "Indonesia" (Cornell Modern Indonesia Project, Ithaca, New York, 1970); "Schools and Politics: The Kaum Muda Movement in West Sumatera (1927-1933)," Modern Indonesia Project, Ithaca, New York, March 1971; "Tentang Pemuda dan Pembangunan: Kumpulan Esei" (LEKNAS, 1972); "Modernization in the Minangkabau World" in "Culture and Politics in Indonesia," Claire Holt et al, editors (Cornell University Press, Ithaca, New York, 1972).

T. B. SIMATUPANG--Born in Sidikalang, North Sumatra in 1920, is the head of the Council of Churches in Indonesia, head of the Asian Church Council, head of the World Council of Churches, former member of the Supreme Advisory Council, and head of the Institute of the Indonesian Christian University. Spent much of his career in the military service. Attended the Military Academy (Koninklijke Militaire

Academic) in Bandung (1940-1942), then in the war for independence took part in the organization of the armed forces, becoming chief of the Organization Section at headquarters, a member of the National Defense Council, and deputy chief of staff of the armed forces. After the transfer of sovereignty, became armed forces chief of staff (1951-1954). When that post was eliminated by President Soekarno in 1954, became the armed forces military adviser (1954-1959), taught at the Army Staff and Command School (SESKOAD) and the Military Law Academy. Wrote about his experiences during the war in "Laporan dari Banaran" and also wrote several books about the armed forces and national defense, such as: "Pelopor dalam Perang, Pelopor dalam Damai" (1954), "Soal-soal Politik Militer di Indonesia" (1956) and "Pengantar Ilmu Perang di Indonesia" (1968). [Text] [Jakarta PRISMA No 12 in Indonesian Dec 80 p 94]

MAJ GEN R. WIBHAWA--Jakarta, 17 February [sic]--Maj Gen R. Wibhawa, who had been commander of the Unita Section at the Armed Forces Staff and Command School, died Tuesday night [Wednesday morning] at 0356 hours in Gatot Subroto Hospital, Jakarta. The body has been laid out at the Wibhawa residence, 136 Dewi Sartika Street in Jakarta, for the viewing and, according to plans, will be taken Wednesday morning [today] at 1100 hours from the house by the chief of staff for operations, Department of Defense and Security, Vice Adm M. Romly, for burial at the Kalibata Hero's Cemetery. Acting as ceremonial inspector at Kalibata will be the commanding general of the Armed Forces Staff and Command School, Vice Adm R. E. Suprpto. The deceased leaves behind his wife and two children. Before he died, he had been treated for several days at the RSPAD [expansion unknown] Gatot Subroto, Jakarta. Maj Gen R. Wibhawa was born in Solo on 15 February 1928. He began his military career in 1945. He earned three service stars and eight service medals. [Text] [Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 18 Feb 81 p 12]

FIFTEEN NEW SUPREME COURT JUSTICES--The president has fixed the appointments of 15 new Supreme Court justices through Presidential Executive Order No 28, 1981. This action is in accordance with Head of Parliament Letters No CI-01-D/1672/1979, dated 7 June 1979, and No C4-01/K-D/2927/DPKRI/1980, dated 26 September 1980, which determine the duties of the Supreme Court. The 15 new justices are as follows: Adi Andoyo Sutjipto, SH, R. Harsadi Darasokusumo, SH, Ismail Rahardjo, SH, Mrs H. Martina Widagdo, SH, Maj Gen Mudjono, SH, Brig Gen Ret Piola, SH, Mrs R. Siti Rusma Achmad, SH, Mrs Purbowaty Djokosudomo, SH, R. Ruskandi, SH, Roesli, SH, Olden Bidara, SH, Brig Gen Sugiri, SH, R. Suhono Sudja, SH, Brig Gen Syaffar, SH, and Antonius Sudjadi, SH. In accordance with Presidential Executive Order No 30, 1981, Mudjono and Purwoto S. Gandasubrata have been appointed as chief justice and deputy chief justice of the Supreme Court, replacing Prof Omar Seno Adjie, SH, and Dr Santoso Pudjosubroto, SH. The latter two men have reached retirement age and have been honorably discharged. Further, Associate Justice Purvosumu, SH, will also retire. With the retirement of 3 justices and the appointment of 15 new justices, there are now 24 justices on the court. The other justices are: Indoharto, SH, Bustamil Arifin, SH, R. Djoko Soegianto, SH, R. Zainal Asikan Kusuma Atmaja, SH, Mrs Sri Widowati Wiratmo Soekito, SH, S. Hendrotomo, SH, Palti Radja Siregar, SH, Syamsuddin Abubakar, SH, and Purwoto S. Gandasubrata, SH. [Text] [Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 18 Feb 81 pp 1, 12]

MALAYSIA TROUBLED BY THAI MUSLIM IMMIGRANTS

Paris LE MONDE in French 22 Apr 81 p 8

[Article by correspondent Jacques de Barrin: "Malaysia Worries About the Influx of Muslim Immigrants from Thailand"]

[Text] Bangkok--Over 1,800 Muslim Thais who used to live in the southern provinces have already fled to Malaysia since the beginning of April. These refugees--mainly women, children and older people--are reported to say that they have been subjected to continuous harassment by members of the communist party who have gone underground in the area, and also suspected by local authorities of leanings toward a separatist movement, the Pattani Unified Liberation Organization (PULO).

A Malaysian source indicates that statements made by the refugees would indicate that, in fact, they may have been driven out by the Thai authorities who probably feel that they cannot become assimilated. In Kuala Lumpur, officials say they are worried about this influx of illegal immigrants which comes on top of the 90,000 Muslim Philipinos installed in the Sabah state, and 10,000 Vietnamese waiting for their departure toward other countries.

These refugees, many of whom have come through the jungle roads followed by smugglers, have found an asylum in the Malaysian provinces of Perak and Kedah. Among other places, they have found temporary shelter at Baling, where they receive medical assistance and food from the Red Crescent. Kuala Lumpur authorities have indicated that the refugees were granted asylum "for purely humanitarian reasons" and that they would be repatriated "as soon as safety conditions are met."

This case reveals the difficulties encountered by Bangkok in controlling the southernmost part of the country where the people--who belong to a Malaysian ethnic group and are of the Muslim faith--became Thais through the hazards of territorial annexations. As could be expected, these people are responsive to the slogans of certain separatist movements, especially the PULO who claimed responsibility for a series of bombings last February in the province of Yala. It is taken for granted that these activities receive financial assistance from Libya and Syria.

On both sides of the Thai-Malaysian border, the underground communist parties of the two countries--a total of about 6,000 men--are trying to take advantage of the situation to further their goals and will occasionally help Muslim separatists. The lack of safety in the area is increased with a third force adding itself to the first two, sometimes combining its efforts with theirs: these are the bandits whose activities have never been stopped since the time of sea piracy and who, nowadays, are involved in all kinds of smuggling.

Until 1979, Thailand and Malaysia conducted joint operations to put an end to this endemic rebellion, without any positive results it would appear. Since early this year, 140 Thais (soldiers, militiamen or officials) have been killed in the course of military operations. For their part, the Muslim rebels have lost 20 men. Seventy communists have been disabled.

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CSO: 4200/40

BIOGRAPHIC DATA PUBLISHED ON NEW SIND MINISTERS

GP170550 Karachi DAWN in English 15 May 81 p 14

[Text] Mir Rasool Bux Talpur: born in 1929 at Tando Mir Muhammad, Hyderabad District, Mir Rasool Bux Talpur was educated at Jamia Millia Delhi. He is widely known for his services in social and political fields over a period of more than 30 years. During this period he has also remained an active trade unionist.

He has also been a member of the Hyderabad Municipal Committee.

A seasoned politician, Mir Rasool Bux Talpur has held the office of senior minister in the Sind cabinet and governor of Sind 1972-73.

Mir Sahib's close identification with the down-trodden of the province has always earned him great respect from all sections of society. He is the younger brother of Mir Ali Ahmad Talpur, defense minister of Pakistan.

Mr Justice Syed Ghous Ali Shah: Born in the year 1934 at village Mori, District Khairpur, Mr Justice Syed Ghous Ali Shah graduated from S. M. College, Karachi in 1955 and took his law degree in 1957.

Mr Justice Syed Ghous Ali Shah, whose family has a long history of spiritual leadership in the area, entered public life in early sixties, when he was elected chairman of union council Mori in 1964.

A lawyer by profession he was elected to the office of president of the district bar association for a record term of 6 years from 1969 to '74. He was elected as member of the Pakistan bar council in 1974 and as its vice chairman in 1975. He was again elected to the same position in 1979 for a second term, an honor which has never been conferred on any member of the bar to date. He has also served as member of the boards of governors for law colleges in Sind and public school Sukkur.

In his public life Mr Justice Syed Ghous Ali Shah has always voiced grievances of the people, particularly in the rural areas, and participated actively in their welfare programs.

He was elevated to the bench of Sind High Court on 19-7-1979.

Sardar Ghulam Muhammad Khan Mahar: Born in 1924 at village Khan Garh, District Sukkur, Sardar Ghulam Muhammad Khan Mahar, who comes from a famous Zamindar family, is known for his active interest in welfare activities in the province.

In view of his services, he was elected MNA from Sukkur constituency in 1964. He continued to represent the people of his area at various forums including the Senate, to which he was elected in 1973.

On the basis of his public services, he was elected member of the district council from Ghotki in the local bodies elections 1979. He was later elected chairman of the Sukkur district coordination committee. He is also an active member of the provincial council of Sind.

Mr Mahar brings with him deep understanding of rural problems and of the needs of a growing agricultural economy.

Syed Nazar Shah: Born in 1926 at village Khairpur, District Nawabshah, Syed Nazar Shah belongs to a widely respected and well known Zamindar family of Nawabshah. His father, Syed Khair Shah, was a deputy minister in the West Pakistan cabinet in 1956-57.

Syed Nazar Shah was elected to the West Pakistan assembly in 1962 and was re-elected to the Sind assembly in 1970 as an independent. He wields considerable influence throughout the district not only because of his family background but mainly due to his amiable personality and his keen interest in the social and economic uplift of the people of the area.

Syed Ahad Yousuf: Syed Ahad Yousuf, 47, originally hails from Lucknow. He migrated to Pakistan in 1947. He took his honours and law degrees from Sind University where he played a leading role in student affairs.

A lawyer by profession, former general secretary of Hyderabad Bar Association and member of Sindh/Baluchistan Bar Council, Syed Ahad Yousuf has served as assistant public prosecutor and government pleader for 7 years and as honorary professor of law at Jinnah College Hyderabad. He was elected as a basic democrat in 1964 and to the provincial assembly in 1974. He has played an active role in the sociopolitical life of the province. He wields considerable influence in the public life of Hyderabad.

Begun Ahad Yousuf is a municipal councillor at Hyderabad and an active social worker.

Ashraf W. Tabani: Mr Tabani was born in 1930 at Rangoon. His family, though originally from Bombay, had settled in Karachi before independence.

He obtained B.S. in textile engineering from Philadelphia College of Textile and Science.

Himself a renowned industrialist Mr Tabani has been associated with a number of trade groups and business organizations in various capacities.

He has been a member of a number of Pakistan trade delegations. He has also represented Pakistan at a number of international labor conferences organized by the ILO (International Labor Organization). Because of his organizing capacity, he was appointed honorary administrator of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industries in 1971-72. He also served as chairman of the export promotion bureau and the cotton board from 1972 to 1976. He was chairman of fisheries board from 1974 to 1975 and chairman board of directors Industrial Development Bank from 1973 to 1976.

At present, he is the president of Employers Federation of Pakistan. Mr Tabani has wide and varied experience and understanding of industrial and labor problems as well as matters relating to business organizations in Pakistan.

Begum Tazeen Faridi: Begum Tazeen Faridi, born in 1921, is a gold medalist in philosophy and psychology from Lucknow University. She later obtained a post-graduate diploma in psychology and sociology from Allahabad University. She was also elected as president of Lucknow University Students Union in 1938.

A renowned social worker, Begum Tazeen Faridi has served as chief of social welfare section of the planning commission in 1956-57 and also as adviser to the planning commission from 1962 to 1967.

Widely traveled, she has represented Pakistan at a number of international forums including the United Nations and the economic and social council.

Begum Tazeen Faridi has held a number of important positions in various social welfare organizations which include APWA and the Pakistan Red Crescent Society. She has also remained secretary general of APWA.

Begum Tazeen Faridi is married to Mr A. R. Faridi, former chairman PIDC and Pakistan Steel Mills Corporation PASMIC.

Dost Muhammad Faizi: Born at Karachi on 24 December 1949, Mr Dost Muhammad Faizi is the youngest member of the provincial cabinet.

Mr Faizi distinguished himself in student activities both at the college as well as the university level and is still remembered as an outstanding debator.

After taking his M.A. in political science, Mr Faizi entered the field of industry and was elected as president of Korangi Trade Association.

During his student days and afterwards, Mr Faizi took a keen interest in social welfare activities and holds various offices in a number of such organizations.

He entered the political field in 1977 when he was a candidate for the provincial assembly.

EXPORTS SHOW 22 PERCENT INCREASE

GF170533 Karachi DAWN in English 13 May 81 p 1

[Text] Rawalpindi, May 12--The Federal Export Promotion Board, which met here today under the chairmanship of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, reviewed export performance during the current year.

The export promotion board was informed that overall exports during July-April 1980-81, amounted to \$2,430 million as compared to \$1,989.3 million during the same period last year, showing an increase of 22.2 percent.

Provisional figures of total export earnings from 10 major commodities including rice, raw cotton, cotton yarn, cotton cloth, leather, carpets, rugs and mats, petroleum and petroleum products, fish and fish preparations, guar and guar products, tobacco, raw and manufactured, amount to \$1,771.9 million during July-April 1980-81, as against \$1,570.3 million during the corresponding period in 1979-80, recording an increase of 12.8 percent.

The breakup of export earnings of some items up to April 1981 were, rice \$441.4 million, raw cotton \$495.7 million, cotton cloth \$198.3 million, carpets and rugs \$186.7 million. The corresponding earnings of these commodities in the same period of 1979 were rice \$378.3 million, raw cotton \$306 million, cotton cloth \$195 million and carpets and rugs \$181 million.

The distinguishing feature of the period under review was an increase in exports of a number of minor manufactured commodities. Export earnings from all items of miscellaneous group amounted to \$658.8 million during July 80-April 81 as compared with \$419 million in the same period last year, showing an increase of 57.2 percent in the current year. This increase was due to a better performance of manufactured goods, mainly ready made garments, tents and canvas, hosiery, towels, cotton bags, cotton made-ups artsilk and synthetic textile.

Reviewing export performance of garments industry, the board was informed that export of garments had risen from Rs.37.66 crore in 1978-79 to Rs. 53.4 crore in 1979-80 recording an increase of 41 percent.

Matters concerning export of agricultural products and performance of textile mills and surgical and sports goods industries were also discussed.

The board also reviewed the country's trade pattern with various countries.

The meeting was attended by concerned federal ministers, secretaries and representatives of trade and industry and related autonomous bodies.

CSO: 4220/277

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

FRG LOAN--An agreement was signed in Islamabad today [18 May] under which the Federal Republic of Germany is to provide a soft loan of about 26 million rupees to Pakistan for the purchase of railway equipment. [Text] [BK201051 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 May 81 BK]

TRADE PROTOCOL WITH CSSR--Pakistan and Czechoslovakia signed in Islamabad on 17 May a barter trade protocol under which trade commodities worth \$38 million will be exchanged. The protocol provides for an increase in trade by about 40 percent. The protocol will be effective till 31 December 1982. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 May 81 BK]

AMBASSADOR TO BURMA--The government has appointed Afzal Mahmud as ambassador to Burma. [Text] [BK060309 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 4 May 81 BK]

KUWAITI LOAN--The Kuwait fund for Arab economic development has given Pakistan a loan of \$11 million for a fertilizer project. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 4 May 81 BK]

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